

漫画
ヤス

原作
久米田康治

ひょろく

漫画 ヤス
原作 久米田康治

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おい もとは居ぬか？

多額ほど人間になりました

放送局と放送時間予定

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無羅亭蘭梨蔵役 佐倉綾音
防波亭手負役 山本希望
波浪浮亭木胡桃役 小岩井ことり
空琉美遊亭丸京役 南條愛乃
暗落亭吉来役 後藤沙緒里

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シリーズ構成 横手美智子
キャラクターデザイン 田中将賀
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力ールズ落語家漫画家

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水曜

20

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暗落亭 苦来

防波亭 手宿
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舞亭 丸京

WIDE KC743

ぎょしらく 四

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波浪 浮亭
木胡桃

ムスウの人

孝 殺死要夢
 孝 眞香
 孝 月日
 孝 良福
 孝 譜等模
 孝 流乃
 孝 康混備荷
 孝 和瀬倫
 孝 桔刀
 孝 流乃
 孝 羽尼衣
 孝 寫幼依
 孝 蝶煙緬
 孝 零歩和
 孝 亭亭
 孝 八郎
 孝 美弥縞
 孝 雷音
 孝 呆無頭
 孝 秀雄



ふむく

入場券売場

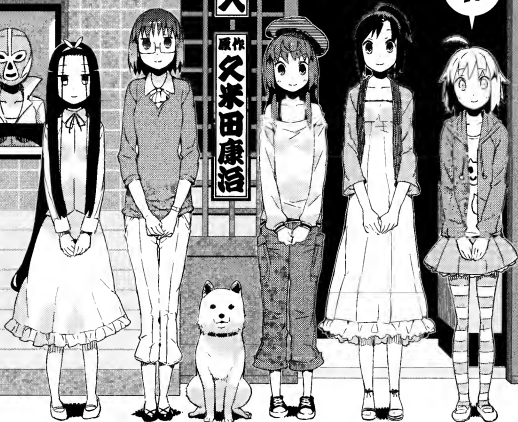
一般 ¥3,000
 シニア ¥2,700
 学生 ¥2,500
 小学生 ¥2,200



孝 和瀬倫
 孝 兎王恋
 孝 酒鐘
 孝 長嶋
 孝 魔梨威
 孝 苦来
 孝 煮改造
 孝 孝行
 孝 木胡桃
 孝 推事
 孝 丸京
 孝 久遠留
 孝 手寅

漫画
ヤス

原作
久米田康治



写真撮影
お断り

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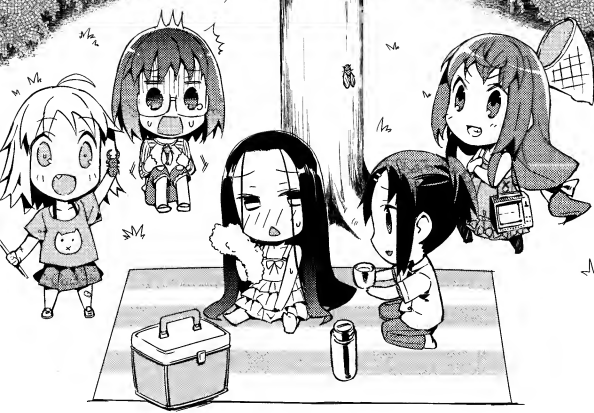
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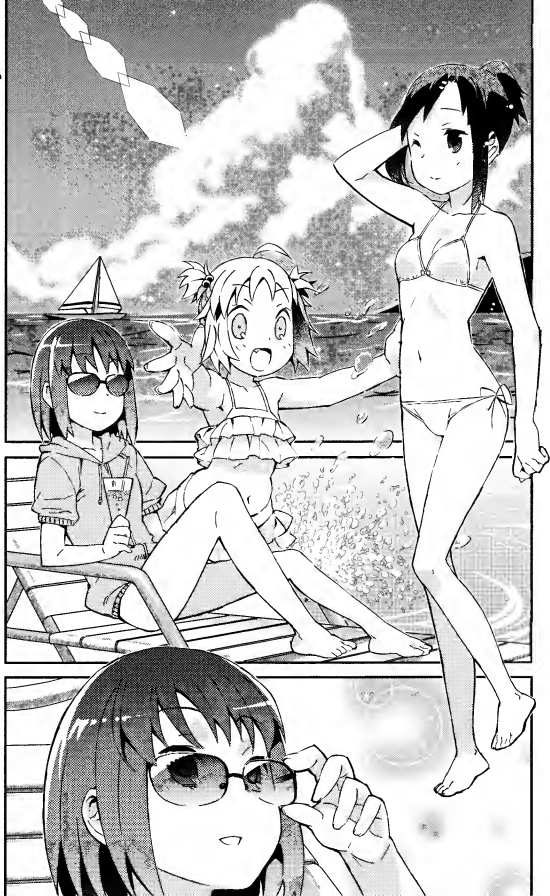


じょしらく

J O S H I R A K U



Chapter 25
Parent Play







I
GUESS
YOU
FOUND
US OUT

WELL...



BORING
SWIM-
SUITS!

DON'T
WEAR
SUCH



YEAH,
ISN'T THAT
JUST A
NORMAL
SCHOOL
SWIMSUIT?



YOURS IS THE
MOST BORING
ONE HERE,
MARI-I-SAN



YEAH...
SOME
MEN

THIS
TYPE OF
SWIMSUIT
IS THE
MOST
EXCITING
TO SOME
MEN!



WHY IS IT
THAT NO
MATTER
WHERE YOU
GO, SCHOOL
SWIMSUITS
ALL HAVE
THE SAME
DESIGN..?

HEY!

ONCE THEY
STARTED
TALKING,
YOU'D NEVER
GET THEM TO
SHUT UP

Rakugo is
The Best!

THERE
PROBABLY
IS BUT...
I'D RATHER NOT
TALK TO PEOPLE
WHO KNOW
THAT MUCH
ABOUT SCHOOL
SWIMSUITS

I WONDER IF THERE'S
SOME SORT OF
RULE ABOUT THEM...
YOU KNOW,
"A SCHOOL SWIMSUIT
NEEDS THIS AND THAT"
OR SOMETHING?

UNIFORMS
ARE SO
VARIED
BUT THE
SWIMSUITS
NEVER EVER
CHANGE!!

BUT WHY
DO THEY
ALL LOOK
THE SAME!?

SO WHY DON'T
SCHOOLS TRY
AND MAKE THEM
MORE UNIQUE?
THAT'D BE
SO COOL!

YOU COULD
EVEN ARGUE
THAT SWIMSUITS
ARE ACTUALLY
PART OF THE
UNIFORM TOO,
IN SUMMER

WOULDN'T THAT
JUST CAUSE
THE SCHOOL
TO FILL UP WITH
SWIMSUIT-LOVING
PERVERTS?

THERE ARE KIDS WHO PICK
THEIR SCHOOL JUST
BASED ON THE UNIFORM...
SO THERE'S PROBABLY ALSO
PEOPLE WHO'D PICK A SCHOOL
BECAUSE OF ITS SWIMSUIT, TOO

SO IT
REALLY IS
WEIRD THAT
SWIMSUITS
NEVER
CHANGE

EVEN WITH
TEST SCORES,
THERE'S
SO MUCH
VARIATION
BETWEEN
SCHOOLS...

Test Score: 40

Test Score: 60

TEST SCORES
AND THE ANGLE
AT THE BOTTOM
OF A SWIMSUIT
SHOULD BE
THE SAME!



120°

YEAH,
YOU'RE
ABOUT A
40 AT
BEST...

THERE'S NO
WAY YOU
COULD SCORE
ABOVE 100

EH?

ISN'T THAT
SCORE A
LITTLE HIGH,
MARI-SAN?



YOUR
PITIFUL
SWIMSUIT
IS JUST
A SAD
RESULT
OF...

JUST
ACCEPT
IT, MARI!

WHAT
THE HELL
IS THIS!?

EDU-
CATION
SYSTEM!

POST-WAR
JAPAN'S
INCREDIBLY
STRICT

LOOSE
EDUCATION?!

IF YOU
OPPOSE
STRICT
EDUCATION,
THEN WHAT
WOULD YOU
PREFER?

I OPPOSE
ANY TYPE OF
EDUCATION
SYSTEM THAT
DOES THIS
TO ME!!



IT'S A
DISASTER!
THIS IS THE
SWIMSUIT
OF A LOOSE
GENERATION!



LOOK
AT THIS!
THIS IS WHAT
HAPPENS
WHEN THE
EDUCATION
SYSTEM
BECOMES
TOO LOOSE!



YOU'RE
PART OF
THE LOOSE
GENERATION?



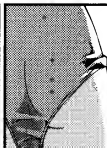
YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TO
SHOW US THIS
FIRST-HAND,
GAN-CHAN...



IT'S EASY
TO GET THE
SIZE WRONG
WHEN YOU
IMPORT
CLOTHES
FROM
ABROAD



IT LOOKS
SO LOOSE
AND
EMBAR-
RASSING...



BUT
IT'S SO BIG
YOU COULD
PROBABLY FIT
KIGU-CHAN
IN THERE
AS WELL...



A TWIN
SWIMSUIT!



JUST
RIGHT!!



HELP!
I'M
SCARED!



YOU
BASTARD!
I'LL KILL
YOU!

STOP
MOVING
AROUND
SO MUCH!
IT
TICKLES!!

UWAAA!!
I DON'T
LIKE
THIS,
GET ME
OUT!



LOOK,
YOU MADE
KIGU-CHAN
CRY...





IT KINDA
FEELS LIKE
YOU'RE
MY CHILD

THIS
KINDA...



EH?
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

AWAKENED
GAN-CHAN'S
MOTHERLY
INSTINCTS

I THINK
HAVING
KIGU-CHAN
ON HER
BACK HAS

WHAT
THE
HELL!?



LIKE YOU
GREW INSIDE
MY TUMMY AND
I GAVE BIRTH
TO YOU...



EH?

CAN YOU
CALL ME
"MOMMY"?



H-HEY,
CAN I ASK
YOU TO DO
SOMETHING
FOR ME?



MOMMY!!

MY
CHILD!!

IT FEELS
LIKE YOU'RE
MY REAL
MOTHER!

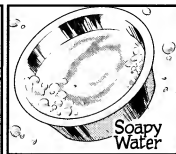
ME
TOO...

I DON'T
THINK
THERE'S
ANYTHING
WE CAN
DO...

WHAT
DO WE
DO?

WE'RE
A REAL
FAMILY!!







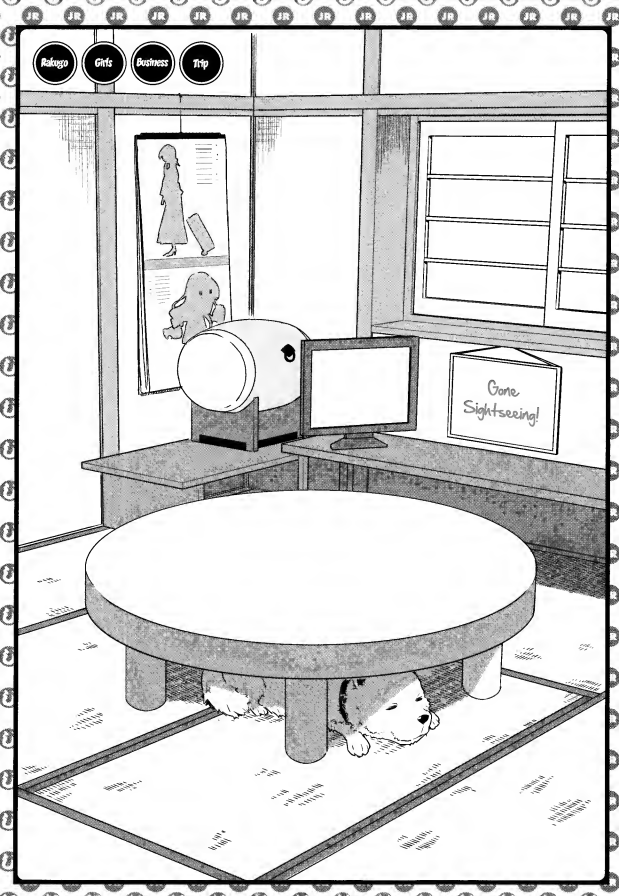
Slip!

CRA-SH!!

**I'LL
KILL
YOU!!**

**NOW
YOU SMELL
LIKE SOAP
BUBBLES!!**





Rakugo

Girls

Business

Trip

Gone
Sightseeing!

TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

PARENT PLAY

THE TITLE (親子芝居 - OYAKO SHIBAI) IS WORDPLAY ON A RAKUGO STORY CALLED GONSUKE SHIBAI. THE STORY REVOLVES A GROUP OF AMATEUR ACTORS SEARCHING FOR A REPLACEMENT FOR THEIR SHUNNED LEAD ACTOR. THEY FIND GONSUKE, A CHARISMATIC SHOPKEEPER AND PAY HIM TO STAR IN THEIR PLAY. HOWEVER, THINGS DON'T GO TO PLAN AND GONSUKE IS BOOED OFF STAGE FOR BEING A TERRIBLE ACTOR. IT'S NOT UNCOMMON IN PERFORMANCES OF THIS STORY FOR THE PERFORMER TO DELIBERATELY DO THINGS WRONG FOR COMEDIC EFFECT. CHAPTER FIRST PUBLISHED 9TH AUGUST 2011

PAGE 4:

"EVEN IN TEST SCORES, THERE'S SO MUCH VARIATION BETWEEN SCHOOLS..."

TETORA IS REFERENCING 偏差値 (HENSACHI) WHICH IS A METHOD OF SCORING A SCHOOL'S OVERALL ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE BY COLLECTING AND AGGREGATING ALL TEST SCORES BY STUDENTS. THIS GAVE THE STUDENT THE PRESSURE TO SCORE HIGH SO THAT THE SCHOOL'S RANK DIDN'T DROP. A HIGHER RANKED SCHOOL WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE MORE ATTRACTIVE TO PARENTS, AND MIGHT SECURE MORE FUNDING ETC. THIS METHOD HAS MOSTLY BEEN PHASED OUT FOR YUTORI KYOUIKU

PAGE 6:

"WHAT WOULD YOU PREFER? LOOSE EDUCATION?!"

ゆとり教育 (YUTORI KYOUIKU) OR PRESSURE-FREE EDUCATION ALSO KNOWN AS "EDUCATION WITH BREATHING SPACE". JAPAN HAS MOSTLY TAKEN THIS FORM OF EDUCATION TO REDUCE PRESSURE ON YOUNGER STUDENTS. THIS METHOD OF EDUCATION DRAWS A LOT OF CRITICISM FROM PEOPLE WHO FEEL THAT IT WILL EVENTUALLY ERODE JAPAN'S COMPETITIVE EDGE IN THE WORLD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

PAGE 7:

"IT'S A TRAVESTY! THIS IS THE SWIMSUIT OF A LOOSE GENERATION!"

THIS IS AGAIN A REFERENCE TO YUTORI KYOUIKU, BUT EXTENDED UPWARDS TO ゆとり世代 (YUTORI SEDAI) WHICH MEANS A GENERATION OR SOCIETY THAT IS LOOSE AND LENIENT. IN THIS CASE IT REFERS TO THE PERIOD OF JAPAN AFTER THE ECONOMIC RECESSION IN THE 90S, TO WHICH THE ECONOMIC PRESSURE AND EFFECTS OF YUTORI EDUCATION WERE SEEN AS CONTRIBUTING TO JAPAN'S YOUTH PROBLEMS, INCLUDING ACADEMIC UNDERACHIEVEMENT, VIOLENCE, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

"IT LOOKS SO LOOSE AND EMBARRASSING"

THE WORD TETORA USES HERE IS DARASHINAI, WHICH MEANS UNTIDY/LOOSE/SLACK ETC, BUT THE POSTER IN THE BACKGROUND HERE IS OF BILLY HERRINGTON, A FAMOUS PORN ACTOR WHO BECAME A MEME ON VARIOUS JAPANESE WEBSITES. A COMMON THING TO DO BACK WHEN THE MEME WAS AT ITS HEIGHT WAS TO GO THROUGH HERRINGTON'S PORN FILMS AND "SUB" THEM WITH THE JAPANESE WORD THAT SOUNDED CLOSEST TO THE ENGLISH WORD HE WAS SPEAKING, MAKING HILARIOUSLY BAD AND INCORRECT SUBTITLES. IN THIS CASE THE LINE "YOU LIKE EMBARRASSING ME, HUH?" BECAME "DARASHINAI, NA?" WHICH CAN MEAN THINGS LIKE "PRETTY LOOSE, HUH?" OR "PRETTY SLUTTY, HUH?"

PAGE 8:

"A TWIN SWIMSUIT!"

THE PHRASE TETORA USES HERE IS NININ BAORI, WHICH IS A TWO PERSON COAT IN WHICH ONE PERSON SITS WITH THEIR ARMS HIDDEN, AND SOMEONE ELSE SAT BEHIND THEM HIDES THEIR HEAD AND PUTS THEIR ARMS INTO THE COAT AND MOVES THEM AROUND AS IF THE BELONGED TO THE PERSON IN FRONT. YOU MIGHT HAVE SEEN THIS PERFORMED WITH A DOG AS THE ONE WITH THEIR HEAD SHOWING.

PAGE 11:

"SINCE YOU'RE A MOTHER, THEN YOU MUST SMELL NICE, RIGHT?"

REFERENCE TO JAPANESE NURSERY RHYME CALLED OKAASAN (MOTHER)

THE LYRICS ARE:-

おかあさんて いいにおい - OKAASAN TE, II NIOI (OKAASAN, YOU SMELL GOOD)

せんたくしていた においでしょ - SENTAKU SHITEITA, NIOI DESHO (IT'S BECAUSE I'VE WASHED THE CLOTHES)

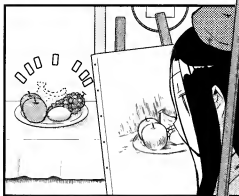
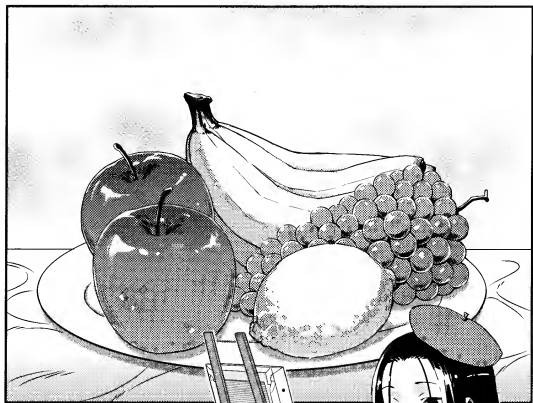
しゃぼんのあわの においでしょ - SHABON NO AWA NO, NIOI DESHO (THE SMELL OF ALL THE SOAP BUBBLES)



じょしらく

J O S H I R A K U





Munch

Chew

Chew

AHHHH!

**BUT I'M
HUNGRY!**

**HEY!
DON'T EAT
THOSE,
I WAS
DRAWING
THEM!!**

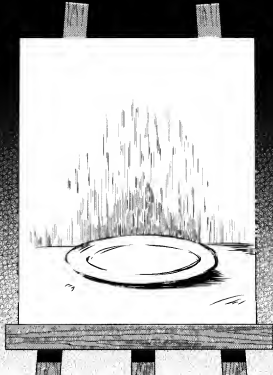
Autumn of Art Vs. Autumn of Appetite

**STOP
EATING!
STOP
IT!!**

**ARGH!
WHY ARE
YOU STILL
EATING?!**

**BUT
FOOD IS
MEANT FOR
EATING,
NOT FOR
DRAWING**

**HOW
COULD YOU
DO THIS?!
I HAVEN'T
EVEN
FINISHED
MY PICTURE
YET!**



AHH,
SORRY,
SORRY!

THAT'S
NOT
WHAT I
WAS
GOING
FOR!

YOU KNOW,
I ACTUALLY
KINDA LIKE
THE FEELING
OF EMPTINESS
IN THIS
PICTURE..

Disruption Volume 3
Zentapedia from October!

HMM

IT'S
RUINED!
MY ART
IS RUINED!

THEN I THINK
MARI-SAN
SHOULD BE
YOUR MODEL
INSTEAD

WELL,
SINCE SHE
ATE ALL THE
SUBJECTS
FOR YOUR
DRAWING...



OK!
I'LL
DO IT!

ME?

A
MODEL?

K!?



LOOKS
LIKE SHE'S
EATEN TOO
MUCH



WHAT THE
HELL?
WHAT'S UP
WITH HER
STOMACH?

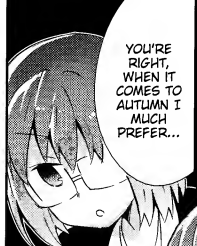
Autumn of Art Vs. Autumn of Appetite

CAN'T
GET
ALONG
WITH
EACH
OTHER

LOOKS LIKE
AN AUTUMN
OF ART
AND AN
AUTUMN OF
APPETITE

DON'T
BE SO
RUDE!

I DON'T
WANT TO
DRAW
SUCH AN
UGLY AND
UNSIGHTLY
BELLY!



YOU'RE
RIGHT,
WHEN IT
COMES TO
AUTUMN I
MUCH
PREFER...



I MEAN,
IT'S NOT
LIKE HUMANS
HAVE TO
HIBERNATE
OR ANYTHING



ISN'T THE
PHRASE,
"AUTUMN OF
APPETITE"
A LITTLE
WEIRD
ANYWAY?



AN AUTUMN
OF SPORT!



SHE'S RIGHT,
WATCHING AN
ATHLETE TRAIN
AND HONE
THEIR SKILLS
IS A TRUE
THING OF
BEAUTY

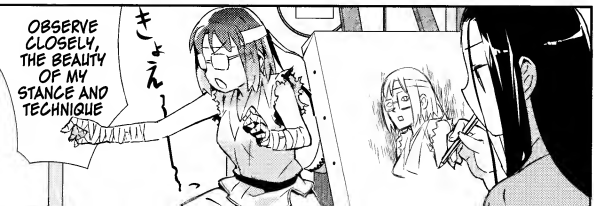


RIGHT!
DRAW ME
INSTEAD!



ARE THE
PERFECT
MATCH
FOR ONE
ANOTHER!

AN
AUTUMN
OF ART
AND AN
AUTUMN
OF SPORT



OBSERVE
CLOSELY,
THE BEAUTY
OF MY
STANCE AND
TECHNIQUE

きょん



Autumn of Art Vs. Autumn of Sport



MAYBE IT'S
BETTER IF IT
DOESN'T MIX
AT ALL...

WHAT KIND
OF AUTUMN
CAN MIX WITH
AN AUTUMN
OF ART?
THERE HAS
TO BE AT
LEAST ONE!

AN AUTUMN
OF ART AND
AN AUTUMN OF
HEARTBREAK
SHOULD BE
ABLE TO MIX...

BUT IF
IT'S AN
AUTUMN
OF
HEART-
BREAK...

DO SHARE
A CERTAIN
MELANCHOLIC
AFFINITY
I GUESS

WELL,
AN AUTUMN
OF HEART-
BREAK AND
AN AUTUMN
OF ART

WAHHH...

HER
FAVOURITE
IDOL WAS
PHOTO-
GRAPHED
COMING OUT
OF SOMEONE
ELSE'S HOUSE

KIGU-CHAN
IS HEART-
BROKEN?

SOB SOB

OOHHHH

DRAW MY
HEARTBREAK!
DRAW MY
UNBEARABLE
SORROW!
I'M ON MY
KNEES!

UWAHHH



Autumn of Art Vs. Autumn of Heartbreak

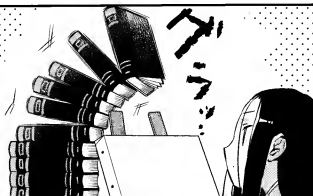


THEN WHY NOT
AN AUTUMN OF
READING?
LITERATURE
AND ART GO
HAND IN HAND!

すい

NOT
EVEN AN
AUTUMN OF
HEARTBREAK
CAN MIX
WITH MY
ART!

I KNEW IT!
THEY DON'T
MIX!





WOULDN'T
IT BE BETTER
TO JUST
QUIETLY
DRAW BY
YOURSELF?



YOU KNOW,
YOU DON'T
HAVE TO MIX
WITH ANY
OF THEM



DAMN IT!
WHY CAN'T
I FIND AN
AUTUMN THAT
MIXES WITH
MY ART!?



SHE'S
BEGINNING
TO GET ON
MY NERVES...



NO!!
I'VE
FINALLY
BEEN
SHUNNED
FROM THE
GROUP!!



AN
OUT-
CAST!!



WE LIVE
IN A MORE
MODERN
WORLD
NOW..



KINDA SEEM
OLD-FASHIONED
THESE DAYS,
DON'T THEY?



"AUTUMN OF
SPORT"
AND
"AUTUMN OF
APPETITE"



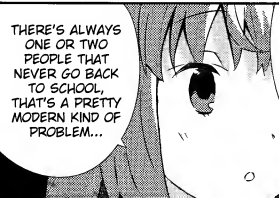
HMM,
WELL,
UHMM...



A MODERN
AUTUMN?
WHAT DOES
THAT MEAN?



WE SHOULD
CREATE A
MODERN AUTUMN
FOR A NEW
GENERATION!



THERE'S ALWAYS
ONE OR TWO
PEOPLE THAT
NEVER GO BACK
TO SCHOOL,
THAT'S A PRETTY
MODERN KIND OF
PROBLEM...



WELL...
I GUESS
THESE DAYS
WHEN
SUMMER
VACATION
COMES TO
AN END...



LIVING
IS TOO
DIFFICULT..



SHE'S
REALLY
GETTING
ON MY
NERVES!

NOW
ON TOP OF
SHUNNING ME,
YOU DON'T
EVEN WANT ME
AROUND HERE
ANMORE?



YOU'RE
RIGHT,
I CAN'T
GIVE UP



BUT
IF YOU
GIVE UP
ON THE
WORLD,



LIKE INCLUDING
HEALTHY FOOD,
SUPPLEMENTS
AND
WEIGHT-LOSS
TRENDS INTO
AUTUMN
OF APPETITE!

WELL, MAYBE
WE SHOULD
TRY AND
CONTEMPORISE
THE OLD ONES
A LITTLE,
INSTEAD OF
TRYING TO
MAKE NEW
ONES...

HAVEN'T THE
OLD TYPES OF
AUTUMN BEEN
AROUND
FOREVER?
WON'T IT BE
HARD TO JUST
MAKE A
NEW ONE?

YOU SAY
MAKE
A NEW
AUTUMN,
BUT

ARE YOU
CALLING
ME FAT!?

BON
APPETIT!



NO NO,
NOT THAT

YOU MEAN
THINGS LIKE
E-BOOKS
AND STUFF?

WE NEED
TO ADD
THINGS LIKE
INTERACTIVITY
TO GET
PEOPLE
TO READ
MORE!

WELL THEN
WHY DON'T
WE TRY
AND BRING
READING
INTO THE
MODERN
ERA TOO?

AN
AUTUMN OF
READERS!!

NOT AN
AUTUMN OF
READING,
BUT..

LET'S TRY AND
IMAGINE WHAT
OUR READER'S
AUTUMNS MIGHT
BE LIKE!

FROM
RIGHT
HERE...

WHAT?



How are you spending your Autumn, Everyone?



Rakugo

Girls

Business

Trip



KUURUBIYUUTEI
GANKYOU

KUURUBIYUUTEI
GANKYOU

TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

THE AUTUMN OF TRIALS

TITLE (試し秋 - TAMESHI AKI) IS A WORDPLAY ON THE TITLE OF RAKUGO STORY 試し酒 - TAMESHI SAKE.
IN THE STORY, ONE MAN COERCES HIS FRIEND INTO A DRINKING COMPETITION, WITH THE BET OF THE LOSER PAYING FOR THEIR TRIP TO A HOT SPRING.
AFTER DECLINING AND COMPLAINING, THE FRIEND EVENTUALLY TAKES UP THE CHALLENGE AND WINS EASILY, LEAVING THE LOSER TO WONDER HOW THE HELL HE DID IT.
IT'S COMMON FOR THE RAKUGO PERFORMER TO MIMIC BECOMING MORE AND MORE DRUNK AS THE DRINKING COMPETITION TAKES PLACE IN THE STORY.
CHAPTER FIRST PUBLISHED 9TH SEPTEMBER 2011

TITLE PAGE:

THE WRESTLER ON THE TELEVISION IS STAN HANSEN

PAGE 2 ONWARDS:

"AUTUMN OF SPORTS/ARTS/APPETITE ETC." WERE/ARE ALL RELATIVELY COMMON PHRASES IN JAPANESE MEDIA, ESPECIALLY IN THE SHOWA PERIOD OF JAPAN (1926-1989), THUS WHY THEY SOUND A LITTLE OLD FASHIONED TO THE GIRLS.
AUTUMN ITSELF IS OFTEN REFERRED TO AS A WISTFUL AND CREATIVE SEASON IN JAPAN.

"AN AUTUMN OF ART" REFERS TO THE PRACTISE OF OPENING ART EXHIBITIONS AND GALLERIES IN THE AUTUMN, AS WELL AS CREATING ART THAT USES AUTUMNAL MOTIFS, LIKE HARVESTED FOOD AND THE DYING OF TREE LEAVES.

"AN AUTUMN OF APPETITE" REFERS TO HARVEST SEASON AND THE WEALTH OF BEAUTIFUL FOOD IT BRINGS WITH IT, PARTICULARLY PERSIMMONS, CHESTNUTS, MATSUTAKE MUSHROOMS AND SAURY.
SINCE THE PHRASE IS ALMOST ALWAYS USED IN A POSITIVE MANNER, I DECIDED ON THE WORD APPETITE INSTEAD OF GREED OR GLUTTONY WHICH ARE OTHER POSSIBLE TRANSLATIONS.

"AN AUTUMN OF SPORT" WAS FIRST COINED DURING THE 1964 TOKYO OLYMPICS, AND IS STILL USED TO THIS DAY FOR LARGE SPORTING EVENTS.

PAGE 10:

"IS THAT BUDDHA!?"

THIS STATUE BEARS A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO SENTO-KUN, A MASCOT CREATED TO CELEBRATE THE 1300TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEIJO-KYO, THE FORMER CAPITAL OF JAPAN.

PAGE 11:

PILLS:

生存戦略 - SURVIVAL STRATEGY

REFERENCE TO MAWARU PENGUINORUM

ホビロン - HOBIRON

REFERENCE TO HANASAKU IROHA

月下美人 - QUEEN OF THE NIGHT

REFERENCE TO A REAL-LIFE SUPPLEMENT CALLED 月下美心 (MIDNIGHT BEAUTIFUL HEART)

PAGE 12:

THE MANGA THE READER IS READING IS JOSHIRAKU, AND IS IN FACT THE PREVIOUS PAGE TO THAT ONE
POSTER IS FOR "HAYATE THE COMBAT BUTLER! HEAVEN IS A PLACE ON EARTH"
THE BOOKS ARE "NEGIMA!", "HAYATE" AND "KATTE NI KAIZOU!"
THE FIGURE IS OF ASUNA KASHIRAZAKA FROM NEGIMA!
DAKIMAKURA FEATURES HINAGIKU KATSURA FROM HAYATE

PANEL 2:

THE ANIME IS HAYATE

PANEL 3:

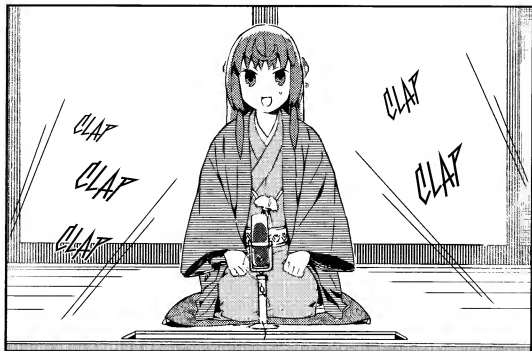
THE GAME IS MONSTER HUNTER FRONTIER ONLINE



じよびらく

J O S H I R A K U





BEFORE
I'D
FINISHED
THE
STORY!

THE
AUDIENCE
STARTED
CLAPPING

WHAT
DID
YOU
SAY!?

MAYBE YOU
WERE SO
BAD THAT
THEY WERE
CLAPPING TO
GET YOU
TO LEAVE
THE STAGE
FASTER

THOSE
IDIOTS!!
DON'T
THEY KNOW
YOU HAVE
TO WAIT
UNTIL
AFTER?!

THEY
STARTED
CLAPPING
BEFORE THE
PUNCHLINE!

IT MAKES
SENSE THAT
SOME OF THEM
WOULDN'T
KNOW WHEN
TO APPLAUD
PROPERLY

WELL,
THERE'S A
LOT OF PEOPLE
THAT MAKE UP
AN AUDIENCE

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

JUGEMU
JUGEMU
GOKOU-NO
SURIKIRE

BACK
THEN..

AND IT'S
HAPPENED
TO ME, TOO

KAJARI-
SUIGYO-NO,
SUIGYO-
MATSU
UNFI-
NO
FUKU-
MATSU...

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP CLAP CLAP

WHY
COULDN'T
THEY JUST
WAIT UNTIL
I'D FINISHED
SPEAKING!?

I SPENT ALL
THAT TIME
GETTING TO
THE BEST PART
OF THE STORY
BUT THE
AUDIENCE
JUST CLAPPED
OVER IT!
YOU COULDN'T
HEAR A THING!

OF COURSE,
ONCE A FEW
PEOPLE START
CLAPPING,
OTHERS FEEL
LIKE THEY NEED
TO JOIN IN...

NEED
TO
DIE!!

PEOPLE
WHO CLAP
TOO EARLY

THAT'S
AWFUL!
IT'S LIKE
SOME KIND
OF TERROR
ATTACK
AGAINST
RAKUGO!

THEY
RUINED
THE STORY
AT THE
WORST
POSSIBLE
MOMENT!

SO I
DECIDED
TO INVITE
MARI-SAN
ALONG....

A WHILE
AGO I HAD
A SPARE
TICKET FOR
A CLASSICAL
MUSIC
CONCERT

THEN IT
MEANS THAT
YOU NEED TO
DIE TOO!

BUT
MARI-SAN,
IF YOU SAY
THAT

EH?!



SO I INVITED
MARI! TO COME
AND WATCH
THE GAME
WITH ME...

BASE BAL
WILD
TIGERS VS

I HAD A
SPARE
BASEBALL
TICKET

I TOO HAVE
FIRST-HAND
EXPERIENCE



SHE
TRIED
TO START
A CROWD
WAVE!

WHEN
OUT OF
NOWHERE

IT'S NOT LIKE THE
CHUNICHI DRAGONS
SCORE MANY POINTS
ANYWAY, SO KNOWING
WHEN TO START A
CROWD WAVE CAN BE
PRETTY DIFFICULT

HEY,
THAT'S
DIFFERENT
TO WHAT
YOU SAID
BEFORE!

I DOUBT
MARI!-SAN
DID IT ON
PURPOSE
THOUGH,
SHE'S
JUST A
MORON

BUT SHE
RUINED
EVERY-
THING!

IF SHE'D
DONE IT AT
THE RIGHT
TIME IT
COULD'VE
BEEN
GREAT!

THE
NEIGHBOUR-
HOOD
ASSOCIATION
CHIEF?

ガラッ

IS IT
ALRIGHT
IF I SAY
SOMETHING?

GOOD WORK
EVERYONE!
GIVE
YOURSELVES
A ROUND OF
APPLAUSE!

PHEW,
WE'RE
FINISHED

A LITTLE
WHILE BACK,
MARI-SAN
HELPED US
OUT AT
THE TOWN
FESTIVAL...

よ
Clap!

I HADN'T
EVEN SAID
TO START
CLAPPING
YET!

SHE
STARTED
TOO
EARLY!

SHE RUINED
THE MOMENT
COMPLETELY!

UHHH, IS
THAT SO?

THE LOCAL MANGAKA?

CAN I SAY SOMETHING?

THEY'RE SO STRIPY!

HIS HAKAMA!

WAAAAHAAA!

AND THEN WHEN SHE GETS TO THE PARTS SHE'S SUPPOSED TO LAUGH AT...

IT'S NOT EVEN FUNNY!

WHY IS SHE LAUGHING AT THAT?!

AGAIN...

HIS HAKAMA ARE SO STRIPY!!

STRIPES!

Y-YEAH, I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT

YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL YOU'RE MAKING HER LAUGH AT ALL

SHE KEEPS LAUGHING AT THE PARTS THAT AREN'T EVEN FUNNY!

WHY DOES SHE KEEP LAUGHING AT THAT FOR?!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY TIMING BEING OFF A LITTLE BIT?

C'MON, YOU GUYS ARE STARTING TO PISS ME OFF

DURING HIS
TRANS-
FORMATION
SCENE!

ATTACKING
THE HERO

BUT IT'S
NOT JUST,
"A LITTLE BIT"...
WHAT YOU'RE
DOING IS LIKE

THIS IS WHAT
WE MEAN WHEN
WE SAY YOUR
TIMING IS BAD

IT'S-
IT'S THAT
BAD!?

AND TRAIN
HER INTO BEING
A PERFECTLY
PROPER PERSON
WITH PERFECTLY
PROPER TIMING!

I'LL TEACH
MARI-SAN
THE PROPER
RHYTHM OF
THINGS

HER HAND
WILL GET
SMASHED!

IF HER
TIMING IS
EVEN A
LITTLE BIT
OFF

I CAN'T
LOOK!

THIS ISN'T
GOING TO
BE PRETTY



I-I'M NOT
DOING
IT ON
PURPOSE!

YOU'RE
SUPPOSED TO
FOLD THE MOCHI
WHEN I LIFT UP
THE HAMMER,
NOT PUT YOUR
HAND ON TOP
OF THE HAMMER
WHEN IT'S
ALREADY
DOWN!

-GO!

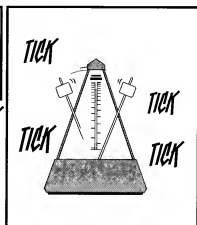
ぺち

TRY
AGAIN!
HERE
WE
GO!



THERE
HAS TO BE
A REASON
FOR IT!

HOW THE HELL
CAN HER TIMING
BE SO BAD
IN EVERY
RESPECT?
IT'S SO
WEIRD!



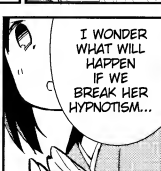


JUST LIKE
A NORMAL
PERSON!

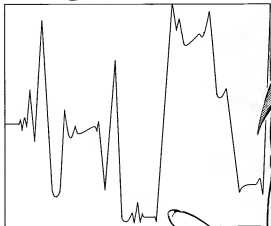
Gasp!

IN FACT,
SHE'S NOT
LAUGHING
AT ALL!

SEE!
SHE'S NOT
LAUGHING
AT WEIRD
TIMES ANY
MORE!



ピコ——ン



MY HEART
ISN'T IN TIME
AT ALL!
JUST LOOK
AT HOW
INSANE MY
ECG SCAN
WAS!

THAT'S
ARRHYTHMIA!

WAIT A
MINUTE,
MARI-
SAN!

THAT'S
NICE

I'M SO
RELIEVED
I MANAGED
TO FIND
OUT THE
REASON!

WEE-OO



WEE-OO

WE'VE ALL
BEEN SO
WORRIED,
MARI-SAN

THE
DOCTORS
MANAGED TO
STABILISE
YOU

WE'RE LUCKY
THAT IT WASN'T
TOO SERIOUS

THE
ARRHYTHMIA
WASN'T THE
CAUSE AFTER
ALL.....

WHA
HAHA!

H-HIS
HAKAMA!
THE
STRIPES!



Relaxo

Chis

Busshu

Tip

HAKI
OGU
KRUI
MEI



TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

THE RUINER

TITLE 台無屋 (DAINASHIYA) MEANING "ONE WHO CAUSES OR DEALS WITH FAILURE AND RUIN" IS A REFERENCE TO A RAKUGO STORY CALLED 代書屋 (DAISHOYA - SCRIBE), A STORY IN WHICH A SCRIBE WORKING IN A PUBLIC ARCHIVE IS VISITED BY A MAN WHO WISHES TO DETAIL HIS OWN PERSONAL HISTORY. THE MAN GOES ON AND ON AT GREAT LENGTH ABOUT HIS OWN HISTORY, INCLUDING INCREDIBLY PRIVATE AND EMBARRASSING SITUATIONS, WHICH BECOME INCREASINGLY INCOHERENT OVER TIME.

CHAPTER FIRST PUBLISHED 7TH OCTOBER 2011

PAGE 1:

"THE BEST SANMA MUST COME FROM MEGURO!"

REFERENCE TO RAKUGO STORY CALLED MEGURO NO SANMA (A SANMA FROM MEGURO) IN WHICH A FEUDAL LORD EATS A DELICIOUS SANMA (PACIFIC SAURY) WHILST OUT TRAVELLING IN MEGURO, AN AREA OF TOKYO. WHEN HE GOES BACK TO HIS HOME IN EDO, HE ASKS ONCE AGAIN TO BE SERVED SANMA, ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT THE SANMA HE IS BROUGHT IS TASTELESS AND UNPLEASANT. HE OPINES THAT THE BEST SANMA MUST ONLY COME FROM MEGURO.

THE AUDIENCE ON THIS PAGE ARE CHARACTERS FROM SAZAE-SAN

PAGE 2:

"JUGEMU JUGEMU GOKOU-NO SURIKIRE KAIJARISUI6YO-NO, SUI6YO MATSU UNRAI MATSU FUURAI MATSU..."

REFERENCE TO RAKUGO STORY "JUGEMU". A FATHER CANNOT DECIDE ON A NAME FOR HIS NEWBORN SON, AND SO HE VISITS A TEMPLE PRIEST AND ASKS HIM FOR A MIGHTY AND AUSPICIOUS NAME. THE PRIEST OFFERS A GOOD DEAL OF NAMES, BUT THE FATHER CANNOT DECIDE ON ONE AND ENDS UP USING THEM ALL, GIVING HIS SON THE RIDICULOUS NAME:

"JUGEMU JUGEMU GOKOU-NO SURIKIRE KAIJARISUI6YO-NO SUI6YOU MATSU UNRAIMATSU FUURAIMATSU KUUNERU TOKORO-NI SUMUTOKORO YABURAKOUJI-NO BURAKOUJI PAIPOPAIPO PAIPO-NO SHUURINGAN SHUURINGAN-NO GUURINGAI GUURINGAI-NO PONPOKOPI-NO PONPOKONA-NO CHOUKYUUMEI-NO CHOUSUKE"

WHICH YOU MIGHT ALSO RECOGNISE AS THE OPENING LYRICS TO JOSHIRAKU'S ENDING THEME. DURING PERFORMANCES, THE COMEDY OF THE STORY COMES FROM FREQUENT RECITALS OF THE FULL NAME THAT GET FASTER AND FASTER AND MORE EXASPERATED AS THE STORY GOES ON. IT IS PERHAPS THE MOST FAMOUS RAKUGO STORY, AND IS OFTEN USED AS A TRAINING PIECE FOR YOUNG RAKUGO PERFORMERS.

SINCE THIS IS A NAME, I DECIDED TO LEAVE IT AS IT IS, HOWEVER THE INDIVIDUAL PARTS OF THE NAME AS INCLUDED IN THIS CHAPTER CAN BE TRANSLATED AS:

"JUGEMU JUGEMU" (寿限無、寿限無) "寿" MEANS LONG LIFE, "限" MEANS LIMIT AND "無" MEANS NONE, OR LACK. SO JUGEMU CAN BE TRANSLATED AS A LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS, OR A LONG, PROSEPEROUS LIFE.

"GO KO NO SURIKIRE" (五劫の擦り切れ) IS A REFERENCE TO AN ANCIENT JAPANESE MYTH. SUPPOSEDLY A HEAVENLY MAIDEN VISITS EARTH ONCE EVERY 3,000 YEARS, AND WHILE DOING SO, LEAVES TINY MARKS ON THE ROCK SHE APPEARS ON. THE STORY TELLS THAT IT WILL TAKE 4 BILLION YEARS TO FINALLY ERODE THROUGH THE ROCK. THE PHRASE LITERALLY MEANS, "RUBBING THROUGH THE ROCK 5 TIMES", SO 20 BILLION YEARS TOTAL OF LONG LIFE.

"KAIJARISUI6YO-NO" (海砂利水魚の) "海砂利" MEANS GRAINS OF SAND IN THE OCEAN, AND "水魚" MEANS FISH IN THE SEA, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF WHICH IS THE AMOUNT OF LUCK THE NEWBORN CHILD WILL HAVE.

"SUI6YOU MATSU, UNRAI MATSU, FUURAI MATSU (水行末 雲来末 風来末) MEANS THE PLACE WHERE WATER (水) GOES, AND THE PLACE WHERE CLOUDS (雲) AND WIND (風) COME FROM. MEANING THAT WHEREVER THE CHILD GOES HE WILL BE BLESSED WITH ENDLESS GOOD LUCK AND GOOD WILL, AS WATER, CLOUDS AND WIND NEVER END.



PAGE 3:
"SOMETIMES LIFE IS STORMY"

REFERENCE TO A BIRDMAN COMPETITION IN JAPAN, WHERE ONE CONTESTANT HIT MAJOR TROUBLE IN THE AIR, BUT MANAGED TO GET IT UNDER CONTROL. HE MADE THE COMMENT THAT, LIKE THE AIR, SOMETIMES LIFE IS FREE OF TROUBLE, AND SOMETIMES IT'S TURBULENT.
IT COULD ALSO BE A REFERENCE TO KUMETA OVERCOMING A BOLT OF HAND, FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE, WHICH STOPPED HIM FROM HITTING HIS DEADLINES FOR SAYONARA ZETSUBOU SENSEI FOR A FEW WEEKS WHICH OCCURRED ABOUT THIS TIME.

PAGE 5:
BASEBALL TICKET:

"WILD TIGERS" IS A REFERENCE TO TIGER AND BUNNY, THE MC'S HERO FORM IS CALLED WILD TIGER

DRUG ONS:

REFERENCE TO THE CHUNICHI DRAGONS, WHILE ALSO BEING A DIG AT TEAMS THAT ARE SPONSORED BY PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES.

"WELL IT'S NOT LIKE THE CHUNICHI DRAGONS SCORE MANY POINTS ANYWAY..."
THE CHUNICHI DRAGONS ARE A PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL TEAM BASED IN NAGOYA

PAGE 6:
"THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION CHIEF?"

IN JAPAN, THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION (KNOWN AS THE CHOUNAIKAI) ORGANIZES FESTIVALS AND CHARITY EVENTS TO HELP THE CITIZENS OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AS WELL AS PLACES SUCH AS VETERINARY CLINICS AND HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY.

"GOOD WORK EVERYONE! GIVE YOURSELVES A ROUND OF APPLAUSE!"

TEJIME IS A CEREMONIAL STYLE OF CLAPPING USED AFTER AN EVENT TO BRING IT TO A CLOSE, IN THIS CASE IT WAS IPPON-JIME (一本締め), WHICH IS 3 SETS OF 3 CLAPS FOLLOWED BY ONE LAST CLAP.
IT'S SOMEWHAT SIMILAR TO SAYING "HIP HIP HOORAY!" IN THE WEST AFTER AN EVENT.

PAGE 7:
"HIS HAKAMA HAS STRIPES!!"

REFERENCE TO ITOSHIKI NOZOMU, OF SAYONARA ZETSUBOU SENSEI
HAKAMA ARE A TYPE OF TRADITIONAL JAPANESE CLOTHING. THEY ARE LONG, FLOWING TROUSERS USUALLY MADE OF SILK AND WORN WITH A KIMONO.

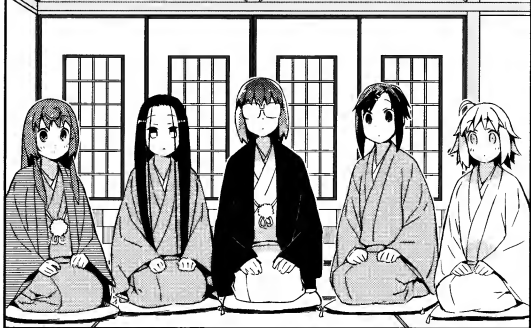
PAGE 8:
"AND TRAIN HER INTO BEING A PERFECTLY PROPER PERSON WITH PERFECTLY PROPER TIMING!"

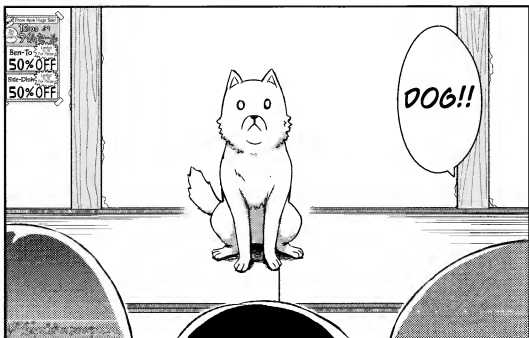
THERE'S A WORDPLAY PUN HERE INVOLVING THE WORD 真人間 (MANINGEN), MEANING AN HONEST AND RESPECTABLE PERSON, BUT THE SPELLING HERE IS 間人間 (STILL PRONOUNCED MANINGEN), THE KANJI "間" MEANS GAP, INTERVAL OR TIMING, CHANGING THE MEANING TO "A PERSON OF GOOD TIMING"



ちびよむ











THE DOG'S
GONNA
TURN INTO
THAT?!
THAT'S
ONE FINE
LOOKING
MAN!

PROBABLY
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS



SINCE IT'D
BE HIS FIRST
TIME BEING
REINCARNATED
AS A HUMAN,
I DON'T THINK
HE'D BE QUITE SO
MAGNIFICENT...

WELL THEN...
I GUESS WE'D
BETTER START
TREATING HIM
WITH THE
RESPECT HE
DESERVES

HE'D HAVE
TO BE
REINCARNATED
AT LEAST
3 TIMES

TO
BECOME AS
WONDERFUL
AND AS
DASHING
AS THAT...

THE MORE
TIMES A SOUL IS
REINCARNATED,
THE HIGHER THE
HEAVENLY STAGE
AND RANK IT
ASCENDS TO

WHAT?

Premium
Card
800p

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE HELL YOU'RE ARGUING ABOUT

NO NO, IT HAS TO BE AT LEAST 3 TIMES

NO, EVEN IF IT'S HIS FIRST TIME REINCARNATING, IF HE PUTS IN ENOUGH EFFORT HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO REACH THAT SORT OF LEVEL

ONCE OR ONE HUNDRED TIMES, ONE OF THE TWO

SO THAT'S THE WAY IT WORKS HUH, DOES THAT MEAN THAT NEETS HAVE ONLY BEEN REINCARNATED ONCE?

PUT IT THIS WAY, IF WE WERE TO HAVE A FIRST-TIME HUMAN REINCARNATION AS PRIME MINISTER, THEN IT'D BE REALLY REALLY BAD FOR JAPAN, WE'D BE RUINED

Yuya Uchida

1 Time

Child Shopkeeper Sesshiro Kato

7 Times

LET'S SEE....

LIKE, WITH CELEBRITIES?

CAN YOU TELL HOW MANY TIMES SOMEONE HAS BEEN REINCARNATED?

YOUR AGE ON EARTH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT

WHAT?! KATO-KUN IS THE SUPERIOR?! HE'S ONLY 11! UCHIDA'S 74!

Glance

BBA4 New Member!

DON'T JUST MAKE STUFF UP!

Kobayashi Sachiko

3rd Reincarnation

Akiko Wada

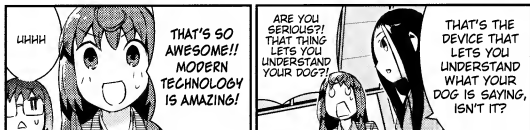
First Time

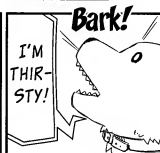
Kitajima Saburo

10th Reincarnation

INSTEAD OF SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF TIMES SOMEONE HAS PERFORMED BEFORE ON THE KOHAKU SINGING CONTEST, THEY SHOULD DISPLAY HOW MANY TIMES THEY'VE BEEN REINCARNATED









IT'S A
NEW
KIND OF
SPEECH
TRAN-
SLATION
MACHINE!

INSTEAD OF
ALLOWING
HUMANS TO
UNDERSTAND
DOGS, IT
ALLOWS
DOGS TO
UNDERSTAND
HUMANS!

IT'S A
REVERSE
BOW-
LINGUAL!

WHAT'S
THIS?

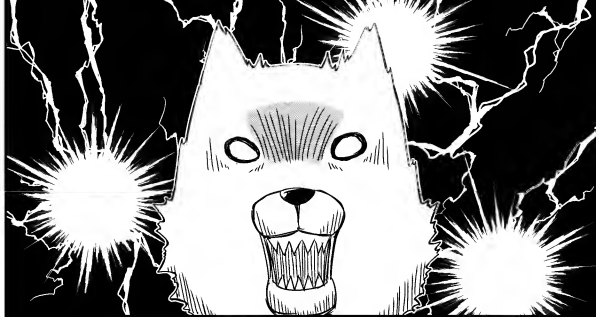
UHH..

MARII-SAN,
TRY SAYING
SOMETHING

THEY'VE
ONLY
JUST
STARTED
SELLING
THEM!

WHERE
DID THAT
COME
FROM?





MAYBE
YOU SAID
SOMETHING
NASTY TO
HIM IN DOG
LANGUAGE?

HE
LOOKS
LIKE HE'S
SEEN A
GHOST!



EH?
WH-WHAT'S
WRONG?

I GUESS
IT'S STILL IN
DEVELOPMENT

PERHAPS
IT DIDN'T
TRANSLATE
IT PROPERLY

BUT I
JUST
SAID
"HELLO"!

IT PROBABLY
JUST NEEDS
SOME
FINE-TUNING!

I..
I CAN'T
GET IT
OFF

I DON'T
WANT THIS
USELESS
PIECE OF
CRAP HUNG
AROUND
MY NECK!

STOP
MESSING
ME
AROUND!!

MAYBE
IT'LL GET
IT RIGHT
THIS TIME!

TRY SAYING
SOMETHING
ELSE!







Rakugo

Girls

Business

Trip

B
M
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屋

手
打
そば

時
屋

RAKUGO IN
PROGRESS



TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

ONCE A DOG, ALWAYS A DOG

THE TITLE 元々犬 (MOTOMOTO INU) IS A REFERENCE TO A RAKUGO STORY CALLED 元犬 - MOTO INU (ONCE A DOG/THE DOG THAT WISHED TO BE HUMAN)

IN THE STORY, THERE IS A PURE WHITE DOG CALLED SHIRO THAT LIVES AMONGST HUMANS AT AN OLD SHRINE CALLED ASAKUSA KURAMAE HACHIMAN JINJA. AT THE SHRINE HE IS WELL LOVED AND ADORED BY THE PEOPLE THAT COME TO VISIT, AND ONE DAY AN OLD MAN TELLS SHIRO THAT SINCE HE IS SUCH A WONDERFUL DOG, THAT HE WILL SURELY BE REINCARNATED AS A HUMAN IN HIS NEXT LIFE. SHIRO ABSOLUTELY LOVES THAT HE MIGHT BECOME A HUMAN, AND SO HE WISHES AND PRAYS TO THE GOD OF THE SHRINE, HACHIMAN, AND ASKS IF HE COULD BECOME A HUMAN IN THIS LIFE, NOT THE NEXT. HACHIMAN LISTENS AND CASTS OFF SHIRO'S FUR, AND TURNS HIM INTO A HUMAN BEING. THOUGH LOOKING LIKE A HUMAN, SHIRO STILL HAS THE MENTALITY OF A DOG, AND MANAGES TO CAUSE HUGE AMOUNTS OF TROUBLE AT THE SHRINE, WHERE HE IS EVENTUALLY EMPLOYED BY THE MAIN PRIEST.

CHAPTER FIRST PUBLISHED 9TH NOVEMBER 2011

PAGE 3:
"I MEAN, YOU ALREADY SEE THEM TALKING IN COMMERCIALS ALL THE TIME!"
REFERENCE TO A SERIES OF SOFTBANK COMMERCIALS IN JAPAN THAT FEATURE A TALKING WHITE DOG CALLED OTOSAN

PAGE 4:
THIS IS KITAOUJI KINYA, A FAMOUS JAPANESE ACTOR, AND VOICE OF OTOSAN THE DOG AS MENTIONED ABOVE. THOUGH, IT APPEARS TO BE HIM WHEN HE WAS YOUNGER, AS KINYA IS PRETTY OLD THESE DAYS.

SOULS ON STAIRCASE (LEFT TO RIGHT):
ITOSHIKI NOZOMU (SZS)
MEIKO "MENMA" HONMA (ANO HANA: THE FLOWER WE SAW THAT DAY)
ASUNA KAGURAZAKA (NEGIMA!)
SON GOKU (DRAGONBALL)

PAGE 5:
"PUT IT THIS WAY, IF WE WERE TO HAVE A FIRST-TIME HUMAN REINCARNATION AS PRIME MINISTER, THEN IT'D BE REALLY REALLY BAD FOR JAPAN"
SLIGHT DIG AGAINST THEN PRIME MINISTER YOSHIHIKO NODA, WHO WAS SEEN AS AN INCOMPETENT ROOKIE THAT LED HIS OWN PARTY TO A CRUSHING DEFEAT AGAINST SHINZO ABE, THE CURRENT PM OF JAPAN (AS OF 2016)

"DOES THAT MEAN THAT NEETS HAVE ONLY BEEN REINCARNATED ONCE AS A HUMAN?"
NEET MEANS "NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING"

SEISHIRO KATO:
A POPULAR CHILD ACTOR (11 AT THE TIME OF PUBLISHING) WHO STARRED AS A CAR SALESMAN IN COMMERCIALS FOR TOYOTA CARS. THE COMMERCIALS PROVED POPULAR, AND HE NOW WORKS IN VARIOUS ROLES IN TELEVISION.

YUYA UCHIDA:
A VERY POPULAR JAPANESE ROCK MUSICIAN AND ACTOR, PROBABLY MOST WELL-KNOWN IN THE WEST FOR TOURING WITH THE BEATLES IN 1966 AND STARRING IN THE 1989 FILM "BLACK RAIN" DIRECTED BY RIDLEY SCOTT.



PAGE 5 CONT.

"INSTEAD OF SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF TIMES THEY'VE PERFORMED BEFORE ON KOHAKU, THEY SHOULD DISPLAY HOW MANY TIMES THEY'VE BEEN REINCARNATED"

REFERENCE TO VERY FAMOUS JAPANESE TV SHOW KOHAKU UTA GASSEN, USUALLY SHORTENED TO KOHAKU, A LONG RUNNING SINGING COMPETITION THAT RUNS EVERY NEW YEAR'S EVE, AND HAS DONE SO SINCE 1953. "KOHAKU UTA GASSEN" LITERALLY MEANS "RED AND WHITE SONG BATTLE", THE PROGRAM DIVIDES THE MOST POPULAR MUSIC ARTISTS OF THE YEAR INTO COMPETING TEAMS OF RED AND WHITE. THE "RED" TEAM OR AKAJUMI (赤組) IS COMPOSED OF ALL FEMALE ARTISTS (OR GROUPS WITH FEMALE VOCALS), WHILE THE "WHITE" TEAM OR SHIROJUMI (白組) IS ALL MALE (OR GROUPS WITH MALE VOCALS).

THE HONOUR OF PERFORMING ON KOHAKU IS STRICTLY BY INVITATION, SO ONLY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SINGING ACTS IN THE JAPANESE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY CAN PERFORM. EVEN TODAY, A PERFORMANCE ON KOHAKU IS SAID TO BE A BIG HIGHLIGHT IN A SINGER'S CAREER BECAUSE OF THE SHOW'S WIDE REACH, AND THE NUMBER OF APPEARANCES AN INDIVIDUAL HAS IS SEEN AS A MARK OF PRESTIGE.

KITAJIMA IS CURRENTLY THE PERFORMER WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF APPEARANCES.

AKIKO WADA, A SINGER AND TELEVISION PERFORMER, HAS APPEARED ON KOHAKU 39 TIMES
KITAJIMA SABURO, A POPULAR SINGER AND ENTERTAINER, HAS APPEARED ON KOHAKU 50 TIMES
KOBAYASHI SACHIKO, A SINGER AND VOICE ACTRESS, HAS APPEARED ON KOHAKU 33 TIMES

PAGE 7: "THE BOWLINGUAL!"

SURPRISINGLY ENOUGH THE BOWLINGUAL IS A REAL THING, A COMPUTER-BASED AUTOMATIC DOG-TO-HUMAN LANGUAGE TRANSLATION DEVICE, THOUGH THE SPELLING USED HERE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE ORIGINAL SPELLING, ヴァウリンガル (BAUURINGARU) VS バウリンガル (BAURINGARU)

LAUNCHED IN 2002 IN JAPAN AND 2003 IN AMERICA, IT ANALYZES THE BARKS OF DOGS, AND PULLS UP A PRE-RECORDED PHRASE THAT CORRESPONDS TO THE TONE AND LENGTH OF BARK. THOUGH CONSIDERABLE RESEARCH HAS BEEN POURED INTO THE DEVICE, IT STILL INSISTS THAT IT IS FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY, AND IS NOT AN ACCURATE REPRESENTATION OF WHAT YOUR DOG MIGHT ACTUALLY BE TRYING TO COMMUNICATE.

"IT WON THE IG NOBEL PRIZE YEARS AGO"

THE IG NOBEL PRIZE IS A PARODY OF THE NOBEL PRIZE AND IS GIVEN OUT IN EARLY OCTOBER EACH YEAR FOR TEN UNUSUAL OR TRIVIAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

IN 2002, THE IG NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WAS PRESENTED TO KEITA SATO, PRESIDENT OF TAKARA CO., DR. MATSUMI SUZUKI, PRESIDENT OF JAPAN ACOUSTIC LAB, AND DR. NORIO KOGURE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, KOGURE VETERINARY HOSPITAL, FOR PROMOTING PEACE AND HARMONY BETWEEN THE SPECIES BY INVENTING THE BOW-LINGUAL.

POSTER: ME EAT YOU WHOLE

A REFERENCE TO THE SHIN MEGAMI TENSEI GAMES.



じょしらく

JO SHIRAKU



As yet
I have
no name
(Probably).

I am
a Dog.

But I now
find myself
living in
this place

I don't
really know
how it all
happened

I
ORDERED
A NORMAL
SIZED
TREE!

DON'T
WORRY,
THIS YEAR IS
DIFFERENT
FROM LAST
YEAR

However,
as for why
these humans
are keeping
me here!

JUST A
PLAIN
OLD,
NORMAL
SIZED
TREE!



BUT
THERE'S
5 OF
THEM!



YEAH,
WE CAN'T
AGREE ON
ANYTHING

WE COULD
NEVER
DECORATE
JUST ONE

WHAT ARE WE
GONNA DO,
DECORATE
A TREE EACH!?

What are they
planning,
I wonder?

These humans
are making
a Forest
inside this
room

OK,
LET'S
GO!

I do not
understand
humans at all



MERRY CHRISTMAS!!



THAT BANG MUST HAVE STARTLED THE DOG, HE'S RUNNING AWAY!



!?



Are they shooting at me?

Just then, was that a gunshot?



I know why they've made this forest...

Ah, now I understand, I see through their scheme



Is that a Rifle?



They're
hunters!!



And I
am their
game...

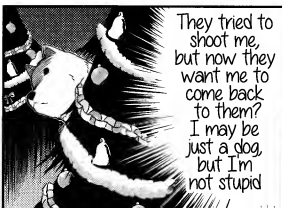


Those
devilish,
despicable
humans...

Are they
really this
blood-
thirsty?



Is that
a hunting
hat?



They tried to
shoot me,
but now they
want me to
come back
to them?
I may be
just a dog,
but I'm
not stupid



HEY,
COME
BACK!



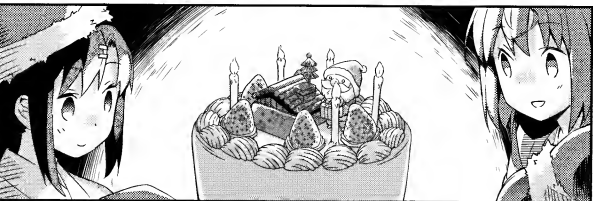
But this probably isn't the end of the hunt.

Looks like the day has come to an end



I'M
TURNING
OFF THE
LIGHTS!

CLICK



I'll have no other option but to reveal my location!

If they light the forest on fire..



A fire torch!!



AH!!
I'LL
DO IT!



They'd go that far to catch me? Those Lousy Humans..



Phew,
I was saved
by a swift
night breeze.

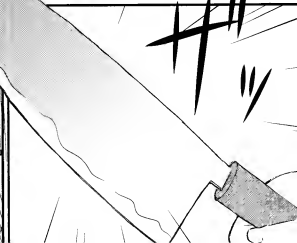
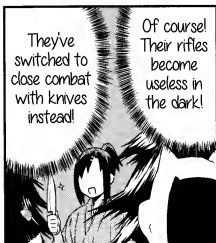


**TIME TO
CUT THE
CAKE!**



They've
switched to
close combat
with knives
instead!

Of course!
Their rifles
become
useless in
the dark!

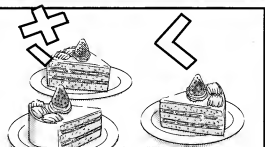


I'll never
let them
kill me!!



NO!
YOU CAN'T
GIVE CAKE
TO DOGS!

HEY,
LET'S CUT
THE DOG
A PIECE
TOO!



COME
ON,
BOY!

JUST THIS
TINY LITTLE
PIECE FROM
THE TOP OF
THE CAKE!

COME ON!
JUST A
LITTLE BIT!

HUH?
WHY?

MARII-SAN, NO!!
CHOCOLATE IS
REALLY BAD FOR
DOGS, YOU CAN'T
GIVE HIM THAT!

Is that
Chocolate?!

YOU SHOULD
NEVER EVER
GIVE A DOG
CHOCOLATE,
EVER!!

SOME OF THE
INGREDIENTS
INSIDE
CHOCOLATE
ARE LIKE
POISON
TO DOGS!



Just
then,
did they
try to
poison
me?!



LET'S
LIGHT
UP THE
TREES!

I can't
believe it!
But as
long as it
stays dark,
they'll never
be able to
find me!

They're
still trying
to get me
to come
back to
them?

HEEEY!

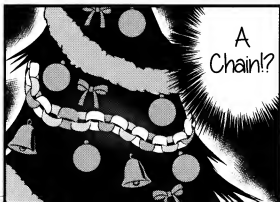


Crap Crap Crap!!
I'll be found!

Flares?!

A
Chain!?

!





All of these trees have chains hung around them.



And this one!

This tree has a chain around it too.



Maybe the humans used them to tether dogs to the trees, to stop them from escaping.

These chains.



HUH?

OI!



AHH

WHO HUNG GLASSES ALL OVER MY TREE!?



Oh... I don't want to think about it

Those poor dogs... there's nothing left of them anymore



YOU BASTARD!

AND WELL... IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAVE ANY DISTINGUISHING FEATURES EXCEPT FOR GLASSES AND THAT STUPID HELMET HEAD



I WANTED TO BE ABLE TO TELL WHOSE TREE WAS WHOSE

CHILL, CHILL! THEY'RE JUST DECORATIONS!





カミヤ

WELL...
USUALLY

WHAT DO YOU
DO WITH THE
GAME ONCE
YOU'VE
CAUGHT IT?

NO WE
SHOULDN'T

GRRRR

THAT WAS A
BLAST, WE
SHOULD DO
THIS EVERY
YEAR!



YOU HANG IT OVER
A FIREPLACE AS
A DECORATION,
LIKE THIS...

WHAT AM I,
A TOURIST
ATTRACTION?!

Welcome
to Nara!

G
Y
A
H
!!

NO
WAY!
NO!
DON'T!

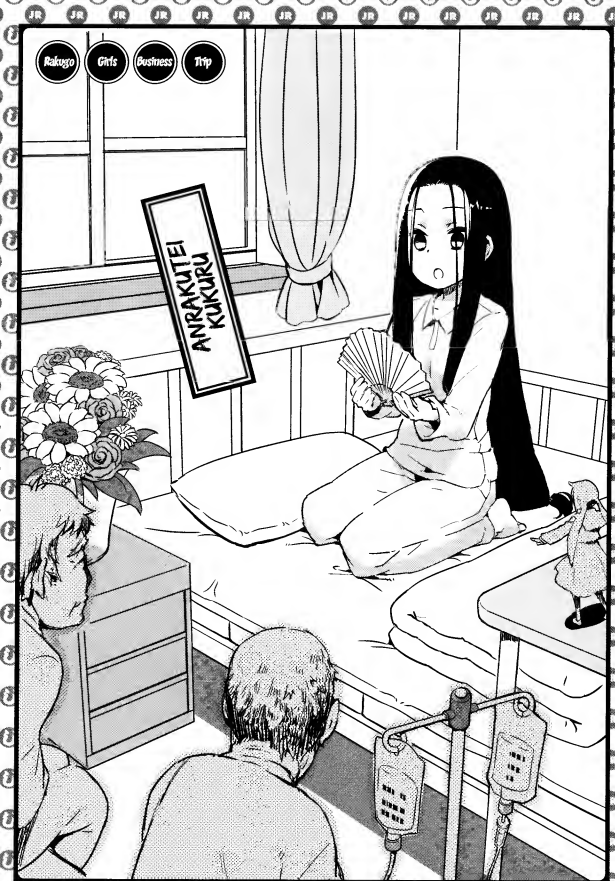
Rakugo

Girls

Business

Trip

ANRAKUTEI
KUKURU



TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

HUNTING TIME

THE TITLE 狩るなら今 (KARU NARA IMA) IS A REFERENCE TO RAKUGO STORY 死ぬなら今 (SHINU NARA IMA). IN THE STORY, A MISERLY AND GREEDY OLD MAN BEGINS TO WORRY ABOUT HIS IMPENDING DEATH, AND CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT HE WILL BE GOING TO HELL, ASKS HIS SON TO PLACE 6 GOLD COINS IN HIS COFFIN WHEN HE DIES, AS A FEE TO THE FERRYMAN TO LET HIM CROSS OVER THE SANZU RIVER, WHICH IS JAPAN'S VERSION OF THE RIVER STYX.

ON THE DAY OF THE FUNERAL, HIS SON PLACES THE 6 COINS INTO HIS FATHER'S COFFIN AS REQUESTED, BUT ANOTHER RELATIVE CONVINCES HIM THAT THIS IS A WASTE OF MONEY, AND URGES HIM TO REPLACE THE COINS WITH FAKE COINS.

WHEN THE FATHER REACHES HELL HE IS UNAWARE OF THE COIN SWITCH AND MUST FACE YAMA, THE KING OF HELL'S HARSH JUDGMENT.

CHAPTER FIRST PUBLISHED 9TH DECEMBER 2011

PAGE 1:

"I AM A DOG. AS YET I HAVE NO NAME (PROBABLY)."

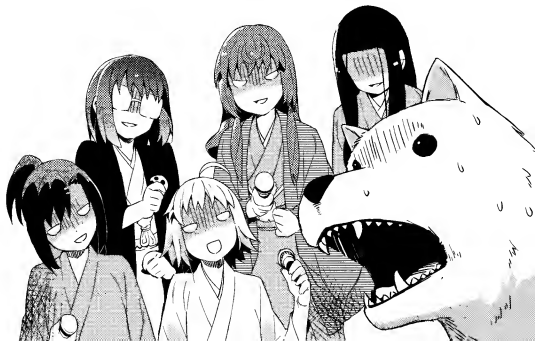
THIS IS A REFERENCE TO NATSUME SOSEKI'S BOOK "I AM A CAT", A VERY FAMOUS PIECE OF JAPANESE LITERATURE FEATURING A STORY ABOUT A FELINE NARRATOR DESCRIBING THE LIVES OF AN ASSORTMENT OF MIDDLE-CLASS JAPANESE PEOPLE. IN THE BOOK, THE CAT SPEAKS IN A RATHER HIGH-REGISTER MANNER, LIKE A NOBLEMAN OR KING, WHEREAS THE DOG IN THIS STORY SPEAKS MUCH MORE HUMBLBY.

PAGE 12:

WELCOME TO NARA!

"WHAT AM I, A TOURIST ATTRACTION?!"

NARA IS LOCATED IN THE KANSAI AREA OF JAPAN, AND IS WORLD FAMOUS FOR ITS DEER PARK, AND THE TAME DEER THAT INHABIT THE CITY.



じょしらく

JOSHIRAKU





**HAD
ENOUGH!**

I'VE

THERE'S
NOTHING
WE CAN DO!
WE GOT
GIVEN SO
MUCH FOR
NEW YEAR!

I JUST
CAN'T EAT
ANY MORE
MOCHI!!



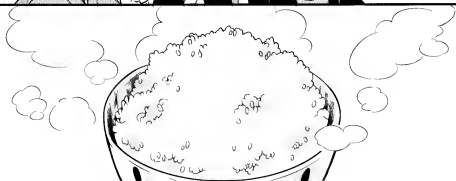
I THINK WE'VE
ALREADY TRIED
EVERY SINGLE
STYLE OF
MOCHI THAT
THERE IS...

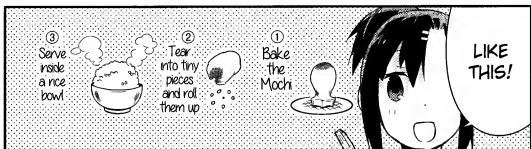
I
AGREE,
BUT

THERE HAS
TO BE SOME
OTHER WAY
TO EAT IT!
EATING IT
PLAIN IS SO
BORING!

**I'VE
GOT IT!**

EVEN IF IT WAS
JUST PLAIN RICE,
AT LEAST WE'D
HAVE HAD MORE
COOKING OPTIONS







IT ANNOYS
THE HELL
OUT OF ME!

WHY CAN'T
PEOPLE JUST
CUT OUT THE
STUPID GIMMICKS
AND TRICKS
AND JUST
EAT STUFF
AS IT IS?



EAT IT
AS IT
IS!

JUST
LEAVE IT
ALONE



YOU KNOW,
THERE ARE PEOPLE
OUT THERE WHO
TAKE PERFECTLY
GOOD PUDDINGS
AND POUR SOY
SAUCE ALL OVER
THEM AND SAY IT
TASTES LIKE
SEA URCHIN!



THERE'S
ABSOLUTELY
NO REASON
TO TURN IT INTO
SEA URCHIN!!

EAT
THE DAMN
PUDDING AS
A PUDDING!



WHY
WOULD
ANYONE
WANT TO
TURN IT
INTO AN
ANIME?

READ THIS
MANGA AS
A MANGA!



I
THINK WHAT
GAN-CHAN IS
TRYING TO
SAY IS...

I
UNDERSTAND

SO WHAT
WOULD BE
THE POINT
IN TURNING
IT INTO
AN ANIME?!

THIS IS A
DIALOGUE-
HEAVY
MANGA WITH
PRETTY MUCH
NOTHING TO
ANIMATE!

EH?

I DIDN'T!

WHY
WOULD YOU
SAY THAT,
GAN-CHAN?!

THAT'S SO
HORRIBLE!

IN
THE FUTURE
WHEN YOU
GET MARRIED,
WHAT ABOUT
IF AT THE
RECEPTION...

WELL
THEN,
KIGU....

OI!

WHEN
WE GET
AN ANIME,
I WISH THAT
GAN-CHAN
NEVER EVER
GETS
ANIMATED!!

EVERY SINGLE
DISH WAS JUST
MELON WITH
A SLICE OF
HAM ON TOP?!

IT'S NOT
LIKE THE
NEWLYWEDS
WOULD BE
EATING IN THE
FIRST PLACE

RIGHT!

NO!
I JUST WANT
TO EAT MELON
AS MELON!
I DON'T WANT
ANY HAM
ON IT!

HAD A
SLICE OF
RAW HAM
ON TOP?!
YOU'D
HATE THAT,
WOULDN'T
YOU?

Banana with Ham

Grapes with Ham

Orange
with Ham

Watermelon
with Ham

THEN THINK
ABOUT THIS,
WHAT IF FROM
NOW ON,
EVERY SINGLE
PIECE OF FRUIT
YOU WANTED
TO EAT

UHHH,
I THINK YOU
GOT TRICKED,
KIGU-CHAN

GAN-CHAN
IS RIGHT!

WELL THEN,
NOW YOU
UNDERSTAND
WHAT I'M
SAYING

I WANT
TO EAT MY
BANANAS,
ORANGES,
GRAPES AND
WATERMELONS
AS THEY ARE!!

ADDITIONAL EXTRAS
AND GIMMICKS
ARE ALL THE RAGE
THESE DAYS,
IT SEEMS

ANYWAY,
WHAT I'M TRYING TO
SAY IS THAT WE
DON'T NEED TO ADD
USELESS STUFF OR
MAKE WEIRD CHANGES
TO EVERY LITTLE THING!

MORE LIKE
"STUFF THAT
MAKES
YOU RECOIL
IN TERROR
RANKING"
IF YOU ASK ME

AND WHAT'S WITH
THESE COOKING
SHOWS WHERE
THEY ADD EXTRA
INGREDIENTS
TO STUFF FOR
NO REASON?
"ADDED INGREDIENT
RANKING"?

THEN
IT'S
J-POP!

IF YOU'RE
IN JAPAN
AND SING
A POP
SONG IN
JAPANESE

AND IT'S
THE SAME
FOR MUSIC,
TOO



IT DOESN'T
MATTER WHERE
YOU'RE FROM,
DON'T ADD ANY
WEIRD STUFF
TO IT!!



RIGHT!
DAMN THIS
SPECCY
NATIONALIST,
SHE'S GOING
TO RUIN
EVERYTHING!



WHAT WILL
WE DO IF
SOMEONE
HEARS THIS
AND THE ANIME
VERSION GETS
CANCELLED!?



THAT
ENTERTAINER
LOOKS LIKE
HE HAS
A LITTLE
"ADDED
EXTRA" ON
TOP OF HIS
HEAD!!

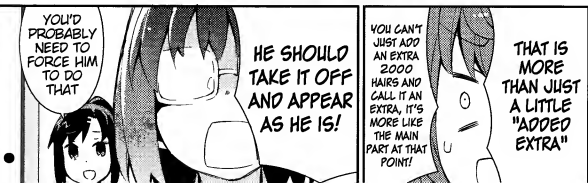


HEY,
LOOK!



FOR
SURE

YEAH,
HE'S
DEFINITELY
GOT A LITTLE
ADDED EXTRA
UP THERE

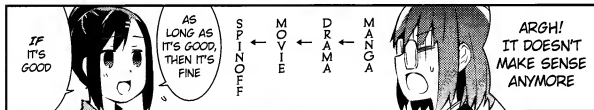
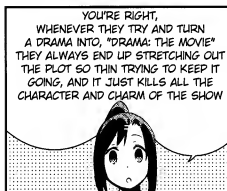


YOU'D
PROBABLY
NEED TO
FORCE HIM
TO DO
THAT

HE SHOULD
TAKE IT OFF
AND APPEAR
AS HE IS!

YOU CAN'T
JUST ADD
AN EXTRA
2000
HAIRS AND
CALL IT AN
EXTRA, IT'S
MORE LIKE
THE MAIN
PART AT THAT
POINT!

THAT IS
MORE
THAN JUST
A LITTLE
"ADDED
EXTRA"



HE'S
A DOG,
NOT A
PERSON,
WE SHOULD
KEEP HIM
THAT WAY!



WHY THE
HELL IS
THE DOG
WEARING
CLOTHES!

NO!
DOGS
SHOULDN'T
WEAR
CLOTHES!



AND IF HE'S
WEARING
CLOTHES THEN
AT LEAST HE
WON'T GET DOG
HAIR ALL OVER
OUR DRESSING
ROOM

IN FACT,
IN WINTER,
FREEZING TO
DEATH IS THE
NUMBER ONE
CAUSE OF
DEATH FOR
DOGS



A LOT OF
PEOPLE SAY
THAT, BUT,
DOGS GET
COLD TOO,
YOU KNOW!

GRRRR



YOU
SHOULD
BE A
NUDE DOG!
A NUDE DOG!



YOU
NEED TO
GET OUT
OF THOSE
CLOTHES!

I don't
really care
if I'm naked
or not



I THINK HE WAS
MORE MAD AT
THE "NUDE DOG" PUN
THAN BEING
STRIPPED NAKED



LOOKS LIKE
THE DOG
DIDN'T WANT
TO BE NAKED
AFTER ALL



GYAA!!

BARK!

STOP
IT!!



LOOKS
LIKE THE
DOG JUST
REALLY
HATES
PUNS...



WHH...

**DON'T
CALL
ME
THAT!**

AHH!
LA
MEGANE
NUDE!

**DAMN
IT....**

IN THAT CASE SHE
SHOULD PROBABLY
TAKE HER GLASSES
OFF TOO

LA
"NUDE AS
THE DAY SHE
WAS BORN"
MEGANE

W-WHAT?

WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE DOING,
GAN-CHAN?
REMEMBER
WHAT YOU SAID
EARLIER!

SHOULD BE
USED AS A
WASH BASIN
AND NOTHING
ELSE!

THAT
WASH
BASIN...

HM?

PLEASE
PARDON
THE
INTRUSION

I DON'T WANT TO
USE IT LIKE THIS!
THIS IS JUST AN
EMERGENCY
MEASURE!!

YOU
SHOULDN'T BE
USING THAT
WASH BASIN
TO HIDE YOUR
NAUGHTY BITS!
THAT'S NOT
WHAT IT WAS
MADE TO DO!





Rakugo

Girls

Business

Trip

BOUHATEI
TETORA



TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

A LITTLE EXTRA LECTURE

THE TITLE (ちよいたし講釈 - CHOITASHI KOUHAKU) IS A REFERENCE TO RAKUGO STORY CALLED くしゃみ講釈 (KUSHAMI KOUHAKU - SNEEZING LECTURE).

IN THE STORY, A MAN GOES TO MEET HIS GIRLFRIEND FOR A MIDNIGHT ROMANTIC RENDEZVOUS, ONLY TO HAVE THE NIGHT SPOILED BY A STORYTELLER APPEARING AND GOING ON AND ON ABOUT HOW HE'D JUST STOOD IN SOME DOG SHIT. THE MAN GETS ANGRY, GETS INTO AN ARGUMENT WITH BOTH THE STORYTELLER AND HIS GIRLFRIEND, WHO ENDS UP BREAKING UP WITH HIM. WHEN HE GOES BACK TO HIS GROUP OF FRIENDS, THEY PROMISE TO HELP HIM SEEK REVENGE ON THE STORYTELLER, AND WHILE SAT IN THE FRONT ROW OF THE AUDIENCE DURING ONE OF HIS SHOWS, THE MAIN CHARACTER THROWS PEPPER INTO A LITTLE BRAZIER THAT CAUSES A CLOUD OF PEPPER DUST TO FLY INTO THE AIR AND MAKE THE STORYTELLER START SNEEZING. ANGER AND CONFUSION ENSUES.

CHAPTER FIRST PUBLISHED 9TH JANUARY 2012

PAGE 2:

I JUST CAN'T EAT ANY MORE MOCHI!!

MOCHI IS A SOFT RICE CAKE MADE FROM POUNDED GLUTINOUS RICE, WHICH IS THEN MOLDED INTO SHAPES, USUALLY A ROUND DUMPLING SHAPE. THOUGH MADE AND EATEN ALL YEAR ROUND, IT IS TRADITIONALLY MOST OFTEN MADE AND EATEN OVER THE NEW YEAR PERIOD, AS WELL AS GIVEN AS A GIFT FOR WELCOMING IN THE NEW YEAR.

I THINK WE'VE ALREADY TRIED EVERY SINGLE STYLE OF MOCHI THAT THERE IS...

MOCHI LIST:

ABEKAWA MOCHI - MOCHI THAT IS COVERED IN GROUND SOY BEAN FLOUR KNOWN AS KINAKO.

SOMETIMES IT'S FRIED, BUT MOSTLY THE FLOUR IS JUST LEFT AS A COATING, AND HAS A SORT OF SEMI-SWEET, SEMI-SAVOURY TASTE.

OSHIRUKO - BEAN SOUP MADE FROM AZUKI BEANS, SERVED IN A BOWL WITH PIECES OF MOCHI

MISO MOCHI - LITTLE PIECES OF MOCHI COVERED IN MISO POWDER, SERVED AS A SWEET. MISO IS FERMENTED SOYBEANS AND SALT, AND HAS A SWEET/SAVOURY FLAVOUR. MISO MOCHI WAS SERVED BEFORE THE VAST MAJORITY OF JAPANESE PEOPLE HAD ACCESS TO SUGAR.

KINCHAKU MOCHI - FRIED TOFU POUCH FILLED WITH MOCHI

OZONI - MOCHI SERVED WITH VEGETABLE BROTH. CONSIDERED THE MOST FAMOUS AND AUSPICIOUS WAY TO EAT MOCHI

ISOBEYAKI - PAN FRIED MOCHI, DIPPED IN SOY SAUCE AND WRAPPED IN A ROASTED SEAWEEED SHEET

PAGE 4:

"YOU KNOW, THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO TAKE PERFECTLY GOOD PUDDINGS AND POUR SOY SAUCE ALL OVER THEM AND SAY IT TASTES LIKE SEA URCHIN!"

APPARENTLY THIS IS THE CASE, THOUGH IT HAS TO BE A SPECIFICALLY BREWED SOY SAUCE, USED ON A CREME CARAMEL TYPE PUDDING.

PAGE 5, PANEL 3:

DOLL IN THE BACKGROUND IS OF PKPK, A CHARACTER FROM GODO FAIRIES.

"EVERY SINGLE DISH WAS JUST MELON WITH A SLICE OF HAM ON TOP?!"

MELON WITH HAM IS A PRETTY POPULAR HORS D'OEUVRE IN THE WEST, AND OFTEN USES STRONG SALTY HAM WHICH BLENDS NICELY WITH CANTALOUPE MELON. HOWEVER, THE MELON THAT IS MOST AVAILABLE IN JAPAN (MUSKMELON) IS A LOT SWEETER AND MORE FRAGRANT THAN CANTALOUPE, AND JAPANESE HAM ISN'T AS STRONGLY FLAVOURED AS PARMA HAM OR SPANISH HAM, WHICH LEADS TO MELON WITH HAM TASTING TERRIBLE.



PAGE 6:
"AND WHAT'S WITH THESE COOKING SHOWS WHERE THEY ADD EXTRA INGREDIENTS TO STUFF FOR NO REASON? "ADDED INGREDIENT RANKING?""
REFERENCE TO A JAPANESE SHOW CALLED "PLEASE! RANKING" WHERE VARIOUS STUFF IS LISTED AND RANKED, AND A POPULAR SECTION IN THE SHOW IS CALLED "ADDED INGREDIENT RANKING" IN WHICH THE HOSTS ADD RANDOM STUFF INTO FOOD RECIPES TO SEE WHAT TASTES GOOD. USUALLY THE FOOD ENDS UP TASTING LIKE CRAP.

"IF YOU COME TO JAPAN AND SING A POP SONG IN JAPANESE THEN IT'S J-POP!"
REFERENCE TO K-POP BAND KARA, WHO RAPIDLY ROSE TO FAME IN JAPAN IN 2010-2011, EVEN BEING INVITED ONTO THE KOHAKU UTA GASSEN, WHICH AS MENTIONED IN AN EARLIER CHAPTER'S TL NOTES, IS A BIG, BIG HONOUR FOR THE GUEST.

PAGE 7:
"IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE YOU'RE FROM, DON'T ADD ANY WEIRD STUFF TO IT!"
AS MENTIONED IN THE PREVIOUS VOLUME, K-POP CAN BE A CONTENTIOUS ISSUE TO SOME PEOPLE IN JAPAN. THE "WEIRD STUFF" GAN MENTIONS IS PROBABLY REFERRING TO THE KOREAN LANGUAGE.

"THAT ENTERTAINER LOOKS LIKE HE HAS A LITTLE "ADDED EXTRA" ON TOP OF HIS HEAD!"
TOMOAKI OGURA, A POPULAR GAME SHOW HOST WHO WEARS A TOUPEE. EVEN THOUGH HE'S COME OUT AND SAID THAT IT'S A TOUPEE, KUMETA LIKES TO POKE FUN AT HIM FOR IT ALL THE TIME.

PAGE 8:
"I HEAR THIS DRAMA GOT A MOVIE VERSION"
THE DRAMA SHOWN ON THE TELEVISION IS NODAME CANTABILE, ORIGINALLY A MANGA BY TOMOKO NINOMIYA. SO FAR THE MANGA HAS RECEIVED A LIVE-ACTION DRAMA TV SERIES AND A SEQUEL, TWO MOVIES AND AN ANIME ADAPTATION, AS WELL AS AN ADAPTATION FOR KOREAN TELEVISION.

THE DRAWING IS OF CHUNICHI DRAGONS MASCOT, DOALA

THE DOLL IS OF SHRSR, A CHARACTER FROM THE ANIME 6060 FAIRIES.

"YES, EVEN WITH ANIME ADAPTATIONS, AS LONG AS IT'S GOOD THEN EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE"
REFERRING TO JOSHIRAKU'S THEN UPCOMING ANIME ADAPTATION

AS AN ASIDE, JOSHIRAKU HAS ALSO RECEIVED A STAGE ADAPTATION, PERFORMED BY MEMBERS OF THE IDOL GROUP NOBIZAKA46. I HAVE TO IMAGINE THAT SINCE KUMETA WROTE JOSHIRAKU, AND HAS ALSO PROVED HIMSELF TO BE A BIG IDOL FAN, THAT HE WAS PRETTY PLEASED WITH THIS. IT'S AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR THOSE INTERESTED.

PAGE 10:
"LA MEGANE NUDE"
MEGANE MEANS GLASSES, BUT IS OFTEN USED TO MEAN "GLASSES-WEARER" AS WELL. THE "LA" COMES FROM THE KANJI "裸" (RA) WHICH MEANS NUDE OR NAKED.

DOLL IN THE BACKGROUND IS KKRK, COMPLETING THE SET OF MAIN CHARACTERS FROM 6060 FAIRIES.

PAGE 11:
"THEY'RE GOING TO USE THE METAL TO MAKE WARSHIPS"
SCRAP METAL DRIVES WERE A COMMON EVENT IN WWII, THE METAL COLLECTED WAS USED TO MAKE AIRCRAFT AND WARSHIPS. THIS HAPPENED ALL OVER THE WORLD, BUT WAS DONE EVEN MORE SO IN JAPAN DUE TO AN ALL ROUND LACK OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES. THEY WERE OFTEN CARRIED OUT BY MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION, A GROUP OF WOMEN THAT TOOK OVER TASKS WHEN THE MEN HAD SHIPPED OUT FOR WAR.



PAGE 11 CONT.
I DON'T THINK IT'S AMERICA THIS TIME...
I ASSUME TETORA IS REFERRING TO EITHER NORTH KOREA OR CHINA HERE.

PAGE 12:

GAN'S LOOK HERE IS A NOD TOWARDS THE VARIOUS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS AND GROUPS THAT HELPED OUT DURING WWII, SPECIFICALLY THE JAPANESE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION, WHO WERE REFERENCED EARLIER IN THE CHAPTER.

ANOTHER POSSIBLE REFERENCE IS YOSHIKO KAWASHIMA. KAWASHIMA WAS A CHINESE-BORN PRINCESS WHO WAS RAISED IN JAPAN AND DURING WWII ACTED AS A SPY FOR THE JAPANESE AFTER RETURNING TO CHINA. SHE WAS CONSIDERED "STRIKINGLY ATTRACTIVE, WITH A DOMINATING PERSONALITY, ALMOST A FILM-DRAMA FIGURE, HALF TOM-BOY AND HALF HEROINE, AND WITH THIS PASSION FOR DRESSING UP AS A MALE", MOST OF WHICH SOUNDS LIKE A DESCRIPTION FOR GAN ANYWAY.

THE UNIFORM GAN IS SEEN WEARING ON THIS PAGE IS STRIKINGLY SIMILAR TO THE ONE KAWASHIMA WAS PHOTOGRAPHED WEARING MANY TIMES.



じょしらく

J O S H I R A K U





SHE'S
LEARNING
NEW
STORIES

WHAT'S
KIGU-CHAN
DOING?

I'M NOT LIKE
ALL YOU GUYS,
I TAKE MY
TRAINING VERY
SERIOUSLY!

YOU SHOULDN'T
CONCENTRATE
SO HARD,
THE STRAIN
ISN'T GOOD FOR
YOUR HEALTH!

DON'T YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
OVERDOING
IT A LITTLE?

COME ON...
FOCUS!



**YOUR
FACIAL
FEATURES
HAVE ALL
FOCUSED
INTO THE
MIDDLE!**

**YOU
FOCUSED
TOO HARD!**

**I'VE NEVER
HEARD OF
ANYTHING
LIKE THIS
HAPPENING
BEFORE!**

**IF YOU
FOCUS
TOO HARD
YOUR FACE
FOCUSES
INTO THE
MIDDLE?!**

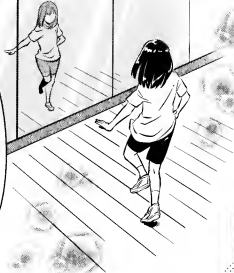
**WHAT
THE..**

EHH!?

I SEE

.....

SHE
FOCUSED
AND WORKED
SO HARD AT HER
LESSONS THAT
SHE BECAME THE
CENTRE OF
ATTENTION!



THIS
IS WHAT
MUST HAVE
HAPPENED
TO ACCHAN,
TOO!



YOU MIGHT
BECOME THE
FOCUS OF
ATTENTION
SOME DAY,
TOO!



IF YOU
CONCENTRATE
LIKE THAT,
KIGU-CHAN



IF SHE
HADN'T
WORKED
SO HARD
SHE NEVER
WOULD'VE
MADE IT
TO CENTRE
STAGE!

AH,
I KNOW



PLEASE
HELP ME
TO GET IT
BACK TO
NORMAL!



BUT I
DON'T WANT
MY FACE
TO STAY
LIKE THIS!!

BUT IT'S
THE WORLD'S
COOLEST
BIRD



IT LOOKS
SO INTENSE!
THAT WON'T
HELP ME
AT ALL!



I DREW
YOU A
SHOEBILL

THIS SHOULD
HELP YOU
CALM DOWN

OK!



TRY
MASSAGING
YOUR FACE,
IT MIGHT
LOOSEN
IT UP A BIT





THE
COFFEE
BREAK
DIDN'T
HELP
AT ALL

AHHHH

IT'S LIKE
WE'RE IN A
KAZUHIKA
SHIMAMOTO
MANGA OR
SOMETHING

THE
FOCUS
LINES JUST
AREN'T
GOING
AWAY

YOU
DON'T
LOOK
IT!

I'M SO
RELAXED!

SENPAI,
I...

AND WHEN
IT COMES
TO LOVE...

IT'S GOING
TO LOOK
LIKE SHE'S
CONCENTRATING
REALLY HARD
ON IT BECAUSE
OF THE
FOCUS LINES,
FOREVER!

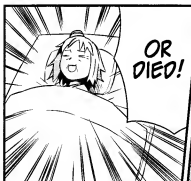
SHE CAN'T
STAY LIKE THIS!
EVEN IF
SOMEONE SAYS
SOMETHING
DEATHLY
BORING TO
HER...

I
LOVE
YOU!



AND IT'S
NOT JUST
LOVE..

NO!!
I HATE LOVE
THAT'S AS
CLINGY AND
INTENSE AS
THAT!



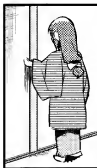
OR
DIED!



OR CLEANED
YOUR EARS!



IT'D BE
THE SAME
WHEN
YOU READ
A POEM!



JUST GIVE UP, KIGU
YOU'LL NEVER HAVE A
BACKGROUND AS GOOD
AS THIS I'M ABOUT TO
SHOW YOU...

I KINDA
LIKE IT,
IT'S LIKE
A DEZAKI
OSAMU
ANIME OR
SOMETHING

I DON'T
WANT
TO LEAD
SUCH AN
INTENSE
LIFE!!



I
LOVE
YOU

THAT
BACKGROUND
DOESN'T
SUIT YOU
AT ALL

JEALOUS?

WAAH
HAHAHA
HAHA!

I WANT
A BACK-
GROUND
LIKE THAT,
TOO!

MARII-
SAN
THAT'S
NOT
FAIR!



I SAID
THAT STYLE OF
BACKGROUND
DOESN'T SUIT
YOU AT ALL



WHAT THE
FUCK DID
YOU JUST
SAY?



CAN
GET RID
OF HER
BACK-
GROUND
EITHER...



I DON'T
THINK
MARII-
SAN



AH



I'LL
KILL
YOU!

STUCK
WITH THAT
FLUFFY
BUBBLY
BACK-
GROUND!



MARII-SAN
YOU
MIGHT
HAVE TO
LIVE YOUR
ENTIRE
LIFE



I WAS
RIGHT,
IT'S NOT
GOING
AWAY



DON'T
BE SO
STUPID!

**EVEN
WHEN
YOU GET
PUNCHED
IN THE
FACE!**



**オ
ン
フ**

**OR HIT
ON THE
HEAD BY
FALLING
OBJECTS!**

**OR HIT
BY A
CAR!**

**THAT'S
RIGHT!**

THE REAL
PROBLEM
HERE IS
KIGU-CHAN

I THINK
YOU'LL
BE ABLE
TO LIVE
JUST FINE
WITH THAT
BACK-
GROUND

IT'S
NOT LIKE
ANYTHING'S
GOING TO
HIT ME ON
THE HEAD
ANYWAY!

**STOP
JOKING
AROUND!**

AND
COMPANIES
FOCUSING
TOO MUCH
ON ONE SET
OF CLIENTS
IS A VERY
RISKY
SITUATION

BUSINESS
OVERCON-
CENTRATION
IN TOKYO

MAYBE SO,
BUT TOO MUCH
CONCENTRATION
IS A MUCH BIGGER
PROBLEM FOR
EVERYONE

**HEY!
THIS IS
STILL A
PROBLEM
FOR ME
TOO, YOU
KNOW!**

IF ONE PERSON
MANAGES
TO FOCUS
TOO MUCH
POWER ON
THEMSELF,
THEY BECOME
A DICTATOR!

IF ALL THE
BLAME FOR AN
INCIDENT IS
CONCENTRATED
ON ONE PERSON,
THEY BECOME
A SCAPEGOAT!

HMM..
AH!

DO
YOU GET
WHAT I'M
SAYING?

THEN
BEFORE
LONG A
STALKER
IS BORN

IF
TOO MUCH
UNREQUITED
LOVE IS
FOCUSED
ON ONE
PERSON...

THEN IT MEANS
THAT NOBODY
ELSE CAN USE
THE TOILET
WHEN YOU'RE
SOAKING IN
THE TUB!

IF YOU LIVE
IN A HOUSE
WHERE THE BATH
AND THE TOILET
ARE BOTH
CONCENTRATED
TOGETHER IN
SAME ROOM..

HEHE
TH-
THANKS

GOOD
JOB,
MARI-
SAN!

THAT WAS
KIND OF
A BORING,
DOMESTIC
EXAMPLE
THOUGH

UHH...
WELL...
I GUESS
YOU'RE
RIGHT

WE NEED TO
SCATTER OUR
THOUGHTS
AND GET
BACK TO
NORMAL!

ANYWAY,
THE POINT IS
THAT INSTEAD OF
CONCENTRATING
SO MUCH

I DON'T
THINK
THAT WAS
PRAISE

STOP PRAISING
ME SO MUCH,
IT'S GETTING
A LITTLE
EMBARRASSING

WHAT THAT MEANS
IS THAT WE NEED
YOU TO HELP US,
MARI-SAN,
SINCE YOU'RE SO
SCATTER BRAINED
AND EASILY
DISTRACTED!

IF WE WERE
ALL IN THE
SAME ROOM
AND SOME
EVIL RIOTER
CHARGED IN,
WE'D ALL
BE KILLED
INSTANTLY!

I'VE GOT IT!
WHY DON'T WE
SEPARATE OUR
DRESSING
ROOMS?!

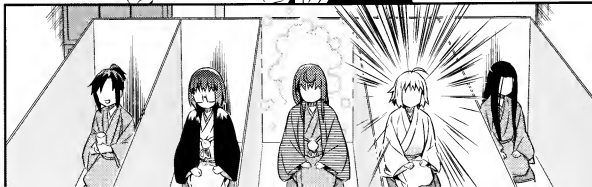
HE DID,
HUH...

HE ASKED
ME WHO THE HELL
I THOUGHT
I WAS

I'LL GO
TALK
TO THE
MANAGER
ABOUT IT!

THAT
SHOULD HELP
KIGU-CHAN TO
DISPERSE HER
THOUGHTS
AND CALM
DOWN

NEVER MIND,
WE'LL JUST
HAVE TO
SEPARATE
THIS ROOM
INSTEAD



BEAR
WITH IT!
FOR
KIGU-
CHAN'S
SAKE!

THIS IS
SO BORING!
I CAN'T
TAKE IT!

NO!
ACTUALLY
IT'S
COMPLETELY
OK!

THIS SUCKS,
BEING STUCK
IN A TINY
SPACE LIKE
THIS, RIGHT,
KIGU-CHAN?

BEING IN THIS
SMALL SPACE IS
ALLOWING ME TO
CONCENTRATE
HARDER THAN
EVER BEFORE!

I'M
CONCENTRATING
ON BREAKING
MY FOCUS!

CALM DOWN!!
SCATTER YOUR
THOUGHTS!

KIGU-CHAN NO!
YOU SHOULDN'T
FOCUS ANYMORE!

AAAH!
GYA

WEE-OO
WEE-OO

THIS IS
GETTING
WAY OUT
OF HAND,
WE NEED
PROPER
HELP!

YOU NEED
TO STOP
CONCENTRATING!

Intensive Care

Focused Treatment Unit





Rakugo

Girls

Business

Trip

M
A
S
K

H
I
T

TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

CONFOUNDED CONCENTRATION

TITLE びっくり集中 (BIKKURI SHUUCHUU) IS A REFERENCE TO A RAKUGO STORY CALLED BIKKURI SHINJUU (SURPRISE LOVERS SUICIDE).

THE STORY REVOLVES AROUND A SEX WORKER AND THE MAN SHE LOVES DECIDING TO ELOPE TOGETHER FROM THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT, TO COMMIT A ROMANTIC LOVER'S SUICIDE. ON THE NIGHT OF THEIR ESCAPE, THEY ARE FOUND BY A PASSING DOCTOR AND THEIR PLAN FALLS APART...

CHAPTER FIRST PUBLISHED 9TH FEBRUARY 2012

PAGE 3:

THIS IS WHAT MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO ACCHAN, TOO!

REFERENCE TO ATSUKO MAEDA, KNOWN BY HER NICKNAME ACCHAN, A FORMER IDOL WITH IDOL GROUP AKB48. SHE WAS A VERY FAMOUS AND PROMINENT MEMBER, OFTEN APPEARING ON ALBUM COVERS AND TAKING CENTRE STAGE DURING PERFORMANCES.

PAGE 4:

"AND YOU CAN HAVE SOME OF THIS CHOCOLATE I GOT GIVEN THE OTHER DAY TOO!"
"FROM NAOITO DATE"

NAOITO DATE IS A REFERENCE TO THE TIGER MASK DONATION PHENOMENON. NAOITO DATE IS A CHARACTER FROM A 60S AND 70S MANGA CALLED TIGER MASK, A WRESTLER WHO FOUGHT FOR ORPHANS AFTER BEING RAISED IN AN ORPHANAGE HIMSELF. THE TIGER MASK PHENOMENON WAS A SERIES OF DONATIONS GIVEN TO ORPHANAGES ALL OVER JAPAN, INCLUDING EXPENSIVE GIFTS AND CASH, ALL SIGNED AS BEING FROM NAOITO DATE. THE DONATIONS INSPIRED MANY COPY-CAT ACTS TO OCCUR ALL OVER JAPAN, ALL CREDITED TO NAOITO DATE.

PAGE 5:

"IT'S LIKE WE'RE IN A KAZUHIKO SHIMAMOTO MANGA OR SOMETHING"
KAZUHIKO SHIMAMOTO, A MANGAKA, FAMED FOR HIS INTENSE, DETAILED DRAWING STYLE

DOLL IN BACKGROUND IS OF RINKO KOBAYAKAWA, FROM LOVE PLUS

PAGE 6:

I KINDA LIKE IT, IT REMINDS ME OF AN OSAMU DEZAKI ANIME OR SOMETHING
OSAMU DEZAKI WAS KNOWN FOR HIS DISTINCT VISUAL STYLE, WHICH MADE USE OF SPLIT SCREEN, STARK LIGHTING, EXTENSIVE USE OF DUTCH ANGLES, PASTEL FREEZE FRAMES AND OF COURSE, FOCUS LINES. HE WORKED ON MANY FAMOUS SHOWS LIKE ASTRO BOY, ROSE OF VERSAILLE, AIM FOR THE ACE, LUPIN THE 3RD AND ASHITA NO JOE, AS WELL AS MANY, MANY OTHERS.

PAGE 8:

OR HIT BY A CAR!

THE CAR IN THIS PANEL IS A TOYOTA AEB6, OF INITIAL D FAME

"BUSINESSES BECOMING OVERCONCENTRATED IN TOKYO AND COMPANIES FOCUSING TOO MUCH ON ONE SET OF CLIENTS IS A VERY RISKY SITUATION"

TOKYO OVERCONCENTRATION IS A PROBLEM WITH BUSINESSES LOCATING THEMSELVES IN TOKYO, TO THE DETRIMENT OF OTHER PARTS OF JAPAN, AND MORE RECENTLY, THE BUSINESS ITSELF AS RENT PRICES SOAR CAUSING SMALLER BUSINESSES TO RUN OUT OF CASH BEFORE THEY EVER GET A Foothold.

JAPANESE BUSINESSES, SPECIFICALLY CAR MANUFACTURERS, TEND TO FAVOUR ONE COMPANY TO SOURCE AND SUPPLY PARTS ETC, AND IN TURN THAT COMPANY TENDS TO ONLY SERVE THE ONE THAT ORDERS FROM THEM. THIS SET-UP CAN CAUSE PROBLEMS IN TIMES OF RECESSION, OR IF THE ORDERING COMPANY GOES OUT OF BUSINESS.

PAGE 12:

INTENSIVE CARE UNIT/FOCUSED CARE WARD

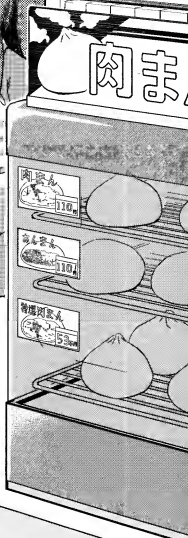
THE JOKE HERE IS THAT THE JAPANESE WORD FOR INTENSIVE CARE UNIT LITERALLY MEANS FOCUSED MEDICAL CARE ROOM



おでん

くろひょじ

J O S H I R A K U



肉ま

肉ま 110円

肉ま 110円

肉ま 55円

Chapter 32
Reverse-Angry Girl



**DO IT
AGAIN!!**

**NOT
GOOD
ENOUGH!!**

**MAYBE
YOU
SHOULD
CHILL
OUT**

**HEY
HEY..**

**YOU
NEED
TO SAY
YOU'RE
SORRY
TOO!**

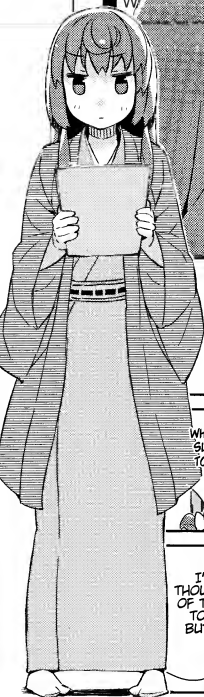
**HASN'T SHE
APOLOGIZED
ENOUGH?**

**I HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT
HAPPENED,
BUT I THINK
YOU SHOULD
FORGIVE HER
ALREADY**

**WHAT THE
HELL DID
I DO?**

WHAT?

Customer Complaint Manual



W... attempt to clarify the situation.
... mutual understanding.
... listen to what they say.
... n't make excuses.
... ey don't hang u

マニュアル

WHAT'S THIS?

内容を明確にする。
把握する。
冷静に話を聞く。
い訳をしない。
するのを伝え電話を切る。
解決策を提示する。

IF WE GOT A COMPLAINT AND DIDN'T DEAL WITH IT PROPERLY, THINGS COULD GET REAL BAD FOR US LATER ON



IT'S THE MANUAL ON WHAT TO DO IF WE RECEIVE A COMPLAINT FROM SOMEONE IN OUR AUDIENCE

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?



IN FACT, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO PRACTISE MOST



SO YOU NEED TO PRACTISE APOLOGIZING, MARI-SAN

I'D THOUGHT OF THAT TOO, BUT...



DO WE REALLY NEED TO GET DOWN ON OUR HANDS AND KNEES, THOUGH? IT SEEMS A LITTLE MUCH



AFTERWARDS
THEIR GODLY
SERVICE
BECAME BIG
NEWS AND
MADE THEM
FAMOUS
ALL OVER
JAPAN!

THE STAFF
TOOK THINGS INTO
THEIR OWN HANDS
AND STARTED
HANDING OUT
FOOD AND OTHER
EMERGENCY
SUPPLIES TO
THE PEOPLE
TRAPPED
THERE!

MARI-SAN
YOU NEED
TO PRACTISE
HOW TO
APOLOGIZE
PROPERLY,
NOW!

RIGHT!
THAT'S
EXACTLY
WHAT WE
NEED TO
DO!

THEY COULD
HAVE JUST
DONE NOTHING
BUT INSTEAD
THEY WON
OVER THE
TRUST AND
RESPECT OF
EVERYONE!

Convenience Stores-
Free Use of Telephones,
Selling Food Outdoors and
Free Food! **MEISON**

Japanet Takata



Ooedo Line-
All day service

AND IT WASN'T
JUST THE
THEMEPARK,
AFTER THE
EARTHQUAKE,
LOADS OF
DIFFERENT
PLACES GAVE
GODLY SERVICE
TO THOSE
IN NEED

OW
OW
OW
OW
OW!



THERE ARE
TIMES WHEN
THE SERVICE IS
SO GOOD THAT
TRYING TO MAKE
A COMPLAINT
BECOMES A
TERRIFYING
ORDEAL...

YOU CALL
IT GODLY
SERVICE
BUT


YOU KEPT
LOOKING
UP!
NOT
GOOD
ENOUGH!

YOU MUST
ENDURE THE
WEIGHT UNTIL
YOU LEARN
HOW TO MAKE
A PROPER
APOLOGY!

WHY DO
I HAVE
ALL THIS
WEIGHT
ON TOP
OF MY
HEAD!?



HAVE YOU
EVER HAD
"BEYOND
GODLY
SERVICE"?



AND RATHER
THAN MAKING
YOU FEEL GOOD,
IT MAKES
YOU FEEL BAD
INSTEAD

SERVICE
THAT MAKES
YOU SAY,
"NO NO,
IT'S OK,
YOU DON'T
HAVE TO GO
THAT FAR"



AND HE
DOESN'T
STOP OR
LEAVE YOU
ALONE UNTIL
YOU'VE PAID
THE BILL!

BUT
THEN THE
MANAGER
APPEARS
AND STARTS
APOLOGIZING
PROFUSELY,



"EXCUSE
ME,
BUT WHERE
IS MY
FOOD?"

YOU ASK
A SIMPLE
QUESTION
LIKE,




IT'S NOT
LUCKY!!



THAT'S LUCKY!
YOU SHOULD BE
HONORED TO
GET SERVICE
THAT GOOD!



I THINK I
KNOW THE
KIND OF
SERVICE
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT!



EVERYONE
TREATS YOU
AS IF YOU'RE A
TROUBLE-MAKING
COMPLAINER
THAT'S ANNOYING
THE MANAGER!

THE SOCKS WERE CHEAP, LIKE 3 PAIRS FOR 1000 YEN, AND THEY COULD HAVE THROWN IT AWAY AND I WOULDN'T HAVE CARED, BUT THEY HAD IT PROPERLY CLEANED AND DELIVERED BACK TO ME!

You Left This Behind!

I STAYED AT A HOTEL A LITTLE WHILE BACK, AND ACCIDENTALLY LEFT A SINGLE SOCK BEHIND..

BUT THE OWNERS CAME AND RIPPED UP THE FLOORBOARDS AND MADE A BIG FUSS OVER TRYING TO GET IT BACK TO ME!

ちやりん

I DROPPED A SINGLE COIN AND IT ROLLED AWAY FROM ME

I TOLD HIM IT WAS FINE, BUT HE RAN OFF TO THE SHELF TO GET ME A NEW ONE!

AND WHEN I WAS OUT BUYING SOME CANDY THE OTHER DAY, THE SHOPKEEPER NOTICED A SMALL DENT ON THE BOX

EH?

PLEASE USE THIS TO PROTECT YOURSELF!!

IF I EVER GOT STUCK OUT IN AN EARTHQUAKE, I'D PROBABLY BE GIVEN A TEDDY BEAR!

SINCE THE OLDEN DAYS OF HARA-KIRI...

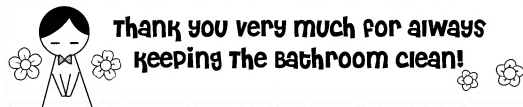
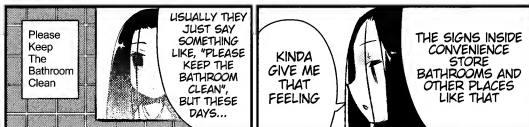
I GUESS THE JAPANESE HAVE HAD A REPUTATION OF BEING TOO APOLOGETIC

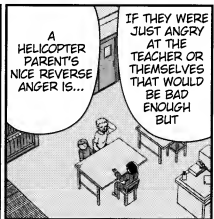
- Your meal has a slight imperfection so they cook you another one!
- Your bike develops a minor fault and the President of the bicycle company comes to collect it himself!
- Your kit model comes with a piece missing so they send you a whole new one!

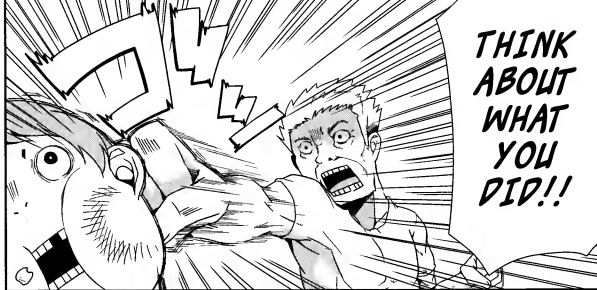
BEYOND GOOLY SERVICE IS A PAIN IN THE ASS!

SEPPUKU IS BAD ENOUGH, BUT

IT'S JUST TOO MUCH!







**THINK
ABOUT
WHAT
YOU
DID!!**



**GANDHI
WOULD
NEVER DO
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT!!**



LIKE
THAT...

**I'VE
HAD
ENOUGH
OF THIS!**

**ARE YOU
THINKING?**

**ARE YOU
SORRY
YET?**



**HAS SHE
JUST LEARNED
ABOUT GANDHI?**

IT'S TOO
VIOLENT

**WELL
YOU'RE RIGHT,
HE WOULDN'T**



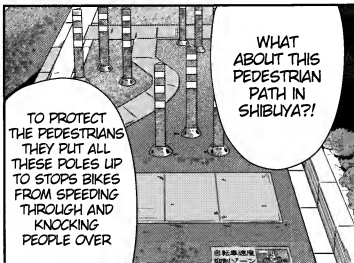
**BUT NOW
NO ONE
WALKS
THERE AT
ALL!**

THEY TRIED
TO PROTECT
PEDESTRIANS



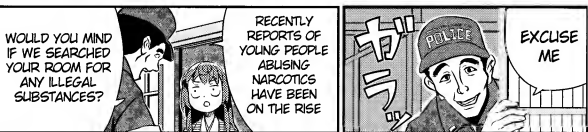
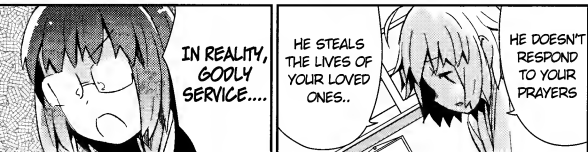
**BUT
THEN DID
NOTHING
EXCEPT
WASTE
TAXPAYER
MONEY!**

THEY
LISTENED TO
COMPLAINTS
FROM THE
PUBLIC



**WHAT
ABOUT THIS
PEDESTRIAN
PATH IN
SHIBUYA?!**

**TO PROTECT
THE PEDESTRIANS
THEY PUT ALL
THESE POLES UP
TO STOP BIKES
FROM SPEEDING
THROUGH AND
KNOCKING
PEOPLE OVER**





I GUESS IF
WE'RE THAT
SUSPICIOUS,
THEN YOU'D
BETTER DO A
FULL SEARCH!!



GANDHI
WOULD'VE
DONE
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT

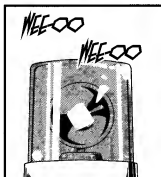
I-I
DON'T
THINK



AT LEAST
IT STOPPED
HER FROM
GOING
OUTSIDE

EVEN THOUGH
SHE WAS INSIDE
THE DRESSING
ROOM?

LOOKS LIKE
SHE GOT
ARRESTED
FOR A
DIFFERENT
CRIME



Continued in
Volume 5

THANK YOU FOR READING VOLUME 4 OF JOSHIRAKU!

JOSHIRAKU IS GETTING AN ANIME VERSION! IN FACT, THIS VOLUME COMES OUT ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS THE ANIME STARTS BROADCASTING, BUT I'M GOING TO KEEP WORKING AS HARD AS I CAN SO THAT I DON'T GET SWEEPED AWAY IN THE MOMENTUM OF THE SHOW.

THANKS TO MY EDITORS, MILICHI-SAMA AND SHIODA-SAMA, THE TANKOBON EDITOR NOZAWA-SAMA, THE COVER DESIGNER HISAMOCCHI-SAMA, YOU'VE ALL BEEN INCREDIBLY HELPFUL.

TO MY ASSISTANTS, SAKURABA-KUN, KIBIDANGO-SAN AND MIKAGESEKIZAI-SAN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

AND TO EVERYONE WHO BOUGHT AND READ THIS BOOK, THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN!

SEE YOU NEXT TIME!

- YASU



TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

REVERSE ANGRY GIRL

TITLE (逆切れガール - *GYAKU-GIRE GAARU*) IS A REFERENCE TO TWO SEPARATE RAKUGO STORIES
バスガール - *BUS GIRL* AND 手切れ丁稚 - *DEKIRE DECCHI* (BRIDGE-BURNING SHOPBOY).
THESE MUST BE RELATIVELY OBSCURE RAKUGO STORIES AS I COULDN'T FIND A GOOD SYNOPSIS FOR EITHER.
逆切れ (*GYAKU-GIRE*) IS A WORD THAT DOESN'T REALLY HAVE AN ENGLISH EQUIVALENT, IT MEANS BEING ANGRY IN A
SITUATION IN WHICH OTHERS SHOULD BE ANGRY AT YOU. IT LITERALLY MEANS "REVERSE CUT".

CHAPTER FIRST PUBLISHED 9TH MARCH 2012

PAGE 4: GODLY SERVICE

COMES FROM THE WORD 神対応 (*KAMI TAIOW*) WHICH LITERALLY MEANS GOD CORRESPONDENCE.

"AFTER THE BIG EARTHQUAKE, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE GOT STRANDED AT A THEMEPARK!"
AFTER THE 2011 TOHOKU EARTHQUAKE, TOKYO'S TRANSPORT SYSTEM SHUT DOWN COMPLETELY, WHICH STRANDED
20,000 VISITORS AT JAPAN'S DISNEYLAND RESORT.

PAGE 5: GODLY SERVICE LIST

CONVENIENCE STORE:

NOSON IS A REFERENCE TO THE LAWSON CHAIN OF CONVENIENCE STORES.

FREE USE OF PUBLIC TELEPHONES:

AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE, MOBILE NETWORKS AND WENT DOWN, AND LAWSON STORES LET CUSTOMERS USE THEIR PUBLIC
TELEPHONES FOR FREE.

OUTSIDE SELLING:

DURING THE DAYS FOLLOWING THE EARTHQUAKE AND THE AFTERSHOCK, MANY SHOPS COULDN'T USE THEIR CASH
REGISTERS TO TAKE ELECTRONIC PAYMENT, BECAUSE THAT REQUIRES AN INTERNET CONNECTION. THIS COUPLED WITH THE
FLOOD DAMAGE SAW SHOP MANAGERS AND WORKERS TAKING PRODUCE OUTSIDE AND SELLING FROM TABLES SET IN THE
CAR PARK LIKE A TRADITIONAL MARKET SO THAT PEOPLE COULD STILL BUY FOOD EVEN WHEN THE STORE WAS RUINED AND
UNABLE TO TAKE ELECTRONIC PAYMENT.

FREE FOOD:

BECAUSE THE PRODUCE WAS OUTSIDE, IT COULDN'T BE KEPT REFRIGERATED, AND SO PERISHABLE FOOD WAS GIVEN AWAY
FOR FREE.

JAPANET TAKATA:

A HOME SHOPPING NETWORK THAT DONATED 500,000,000 YEN (4.3 MILLION DOLLARS IN 2016 EXCHANGE RATE)
TO PEOPLE RECOVERING FROM THE EARTHQUAKE.

OOEDO LINE:

ALL DAY SERVICE

THE OOEDO LINE IS A PRIVATE RAIL LINE THAT WAS CLOSED FOR RESTORATION, BUT RE-OPENED AND OFFERED FREE
SERVICE ALL DAY TO THOSE TRAPPED IN TOKYO DUE TO THE DOWNED TRANSPORT SYSTEM.



PAGE 7:
"I STAYED AT A HOTEL A LITTLE WHILE BACK, AND ACCIDENTALLY LEFT A SINGLE SOCK BEHIND.."
THE ADDRESS ON THE ENVELOPE IS FOR THE MAIN OFFICE OF KODANSHA PUBLISHING

"IF I GOT STUCK OUT IN AN EARTHQUAKE, I'D PROBABLY BE GIVEN A TEDDY BEAR!"
REFERENCE TO THE SAME DISNEYLAND AS MENTIONED ABOVE. PUBLIC PLACES OFTEN HAVE INFLATABLE HOODS TO PUT OVER YOUR HEAD TO STOP IF FROM HIT BY RUBBLE DURING AN EARTHQUAKE, ONLY SINCE THERE WAS SO MANY PEOPLE TRAPPED THERE AT THE TIME, THEY RAN OUT OF HOODS AND STARTED HANDING OUT TEDDY BEARS TO STRAP OVER YOUR HEAD INSTEAD.

"THE JAPANESE HAVE HAD A REPUTATION OF BEING TOO APOLOGETIC SINCE THE OLDEN DAYS OF HARA-KIRI..."

SEPPUKU IS THE ACT OF COMMITTING SUICIDE BY CUTTING INTO THE STOMACH WITH A KNIFE, LETTING THE ORGANS FLOW OUT AND FINALLY BEING DECAPITATED BY A SAMURAI. THIS ACT WAS PERFORMED FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, BUT WAS MAINLY DONE AS AN APOLOGY OR AS AN ATONEMENT FOR A SHAMEFUL ACT.

THE ACT IS USUALLY REFERRED TO AS SEPPUKU, THOUGH MARIU CALLS IT HARA-KIRI HERE. IT MEANS THE SAME THING BUT "HARA-KIRI" IS HISTORICALLY THE TERM THAT UNLEARNED PEASANTS CALLED IT, WHEREAS "SEPPUKU" WAS USED BY THE LEARNED AND NOBILITY OF JAPAN. IT'S KUMETA'S MILD WAY OF IMPLYING THAT MARIU IS A BIT OF A PLEB.

PAGE 8:
"THERE ARE TIMES WHERE THE PERSON COMMITTING SEPPUKU THREW THEIR ORGANS AT THE PERSON THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE APOLOGIZING TO"

REFERENCE TO THE SAKAI INCIDENT (1868), WHERE A FRENCH SHIP PULLED INTO A JAPANESE HARBOUR WITHOUT PERMISSION. THIS PANICKED THE LOCALS AND A GROUP OF SAMURAI ATTACKED THE BOAT, KILLING 11 SAILORS. THE CAPTAIN, DUPETIT THOUARS, WAS OUTRAGED AND DEMANDED THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT PAY HIM COMPENSATION.

HE WAS PAID 150,000 DOLLARS, AND THE 29 SAMURAI THAT ATTACKED WERE SENTENCED TO DEATH BY SEPPUKU. HOWEVER, DUE TO GROWING ANTI-FOREIGN SENTIMENT IN JAPAN AT THE TIME, THE FIRST GROUP OF 11 INDIGNANT SAMURAI DELIBERATELY PERFORMED SEPPUKU IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE ORGANS WOULD COME FLOWING OUT, THIS SIGHT GREATLY SHOCKED THE FRENCH CAPTAIN, WHO RAN AWAY SCREAMING.

THOUGH IN MOST ACCOUNTS THE SAMURAI JUST LET THEIR INTESTINES FLOW OUT THROUGH THE WOUND, IN SOME JAPANESE VARIATIONS OF THE TALE, THE SAMURAI ACTUALLY PICKED UP THEIR VISCERA AND THREW IT AT THE CAPTAIN'S FEET, FURTHERING THE SHOCK WITH THE END-GOAL OF FORCING DUPETIT TO BACK DOWN ON THE EXECUTION OF THE REMAINING SAMURAI, WHICH HE DID.

"NICE REVERSE ANGER"

THE PHRASE USED HERE IS 白い逆切れ (SHIROI GYAKU-GIRE - WHITE REVERSE CUT). REVERSE CUT OR ANGER AS DEFINED FURTHER UP, MEANS A SITUATION WHERE YOU GET ANGRY AT SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE MAD AT YOU, IT'S COMBINED WITH ANOTHER PHRASE 白を切る (SHIRA WO KIRU - CUTTING THE WHITE) WHICH MEANS FAKING INNOCENCE OR BRAZENING OUT A SITUATION, AS WELL AS ANOTHER MEANING OF WHITE WHICH MEANS "GOOD OR NICE GUY". THIS MAKES TRANSLATION VERY DIFFICULT AS IT COMBINES TWO ALREADY DIFFICULT TO TRANSLATE JAPANESE PHRASES INTO ANOTHER PHRASE THAT ALSO HAS A WORDPLAY PUN IN IT.

PAGE 9:
GANDHI WOULD NEVER DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

MARIU'S REPEATED USE OF THIS PHRASE IS A REFERENCE TO A 2CH MEME, ガンジーでも助走つけて殴るレベル (ENOUGH TO MAKE EVEN GANDHI THROW A RUNNING PUNCH)

OFTEN USED WITH REFERENCE TO SOCCER, IT'S REACTION TO AN UNLIKELY, SILLY OR ANGER-INDUCING EVENT. GANDHI WAS THE LEADER OF THE INDIAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT, HE EMPLOYED "NON-VIOLENT RESISTANCE" WHICH INVOLVED DIS-OBEYING LAWS AND CAUSING OTHER CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE SUCH AS REFUSING TO PAY TAXES AND BOYCOTTING ALL GOVERNMENT RUN FACILITIES AND SERVICES, SPECIFICALLY TO ANGER AND AGGRAVATE THE BRITISH ENOUGH THAT THEY WOULD GIVE INDIA ITS INDEPENDENCE BACK, BUT NEVER IN A WAY THAT WOULD CAUSE WIDESPREAD VIOLENCE BY OR AGAINST THE BRITISH.

GANDHI'S METHOD OF NON-VIOLENT PROTEST IS SOMETHING THAT BECAME POPULAR AND ADMIRER IN JAPANESE CULTURE AFTER WWII.



PAGE 9:
"AND ALL THESE TELEVISION MESSAGES RECALLING FAULTY HEATERS FROM 30 YEARS AGO!"
PARTICULARLY CORONA BRANDED OIL BURNING STOVE HEATERS

"WHEN HELICOPTER PARENTS GETS NICE REVERSE-ANGRY, IT'S PRETTY NASTY"
A HELICOPTER PARENT (CALLED A MONSTER PARENT IN JAPAN AND OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES) IS AN OVERBEARING PARENT THAT TAKES AN OVER-ACTIVE ROLE IN BRINGING UP THEIR CHILDREN. THIS OFTEN INVOLVES PLACING UNREASONABLE DEMANDS ON THEIR CHILDREN'S SCHOOL TO TREAT THEM DIFFERENTLY TO OTHER KIDS TO TRY TO GET THEM BETTER RESULTS AND EXCESSIVELY HIGH AMOUNTS OF PRESSURE ON THE KID ITSELF TO PERFORM.

PAGE 11:
RUTHLESS, MERCILESS LANGUAGE "IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE THAT"
THIS IS A REFERENCE TO UMIHARA KAWASE PORTABLE, A PSP PORT OF UMIHARA KAWASE SHUN, A PLAYSTATION GAME. THE PORT WAS VERY BADLY DONE, WITH THE PHYSICS ENGINE AND PLAYER PERSPECTIVE BEING ALTERED SIGNIFICANTLY, OFTEN BREAKING THE GAME. THE DEVELOPER ISSUED A STATEMENT TO THE CRITICISM BASICALLY SAYING THAT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THAT WAY, AND THAT IT WOULDN'T BE CHANGED. PLAYERS BOYCOTTED THE RELEASE. NEVERTHELESS, IT GOT A WESTERN RELEASE.

PAGE 12:
"YOU'D BETTER SEARCH US!"
THIS IS A REFERENCE TO A COMMONLY USED PLOY IN JAPANESE STORIES AND PLAYS THAT WHEN UNDER SUSPICION OF SOMETHING, THE WOMAN IN THE STORY IMMEDIATELY REMOVES HER CLOTHES, CAUSING THE PERSON WHO SUSPECTS THEM TO BECOME FLUSTERED AND LEAVE

YASU'S NOTE:
"IN FACT, THIS VOLUME COMES OUT ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS THE ANIME STARTS BROADCASTING"
THIS TANKOBON WENT ON SALE JUNE 8TH 2012, AND THE SHOW STARTED BROADCAST JULY 5TH 2012



MANY THANKS TO:
THE KIJIMETA WIKI (<http://wiki.kijimetan.net/>)
NOT RED REVIEWS (<http://notredreview.ws/?s=joshiraku>)
THE KIND ANON WHO FOUND THE HIGHER QUALITY SCANS
AND TO VARIOUS JAPANESE BLOGS/TWITTER ACCOUNTS/REVIEW WEBSITES/RAKUGO FANSITES/2CH AND FUTABA THREADS FOR OTHER BITS AND PIECES OF INSIGHT KEY TO UNLOCKING KIJIMETA'S INFURIATING WORLD OF OBSCURE REFERENCES.



Sorry I
took so
long!